



THE BLACK KNIGHT STORY

黒騎士譚

小林源文

In the fall of 1943, the Russian army began to make an attack against Germany on a full scale.
A YOUNG RECRUIT JOINED
in the German tank corps on the eastern front as a supplementary soldier.



THE BLACK KNIGHT

★★★★

THE BLACK KNIGHT STORY

三 小林源文
黒騎士物語

黒騎士物語

Kobayashi Motobuni

小林源文



黒騎士物語

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黒騎士物語

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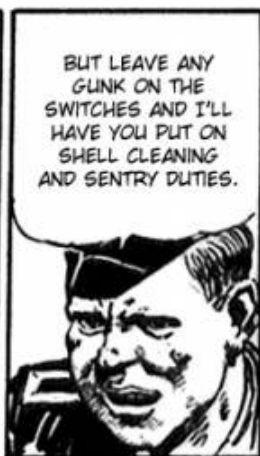
Episode 1

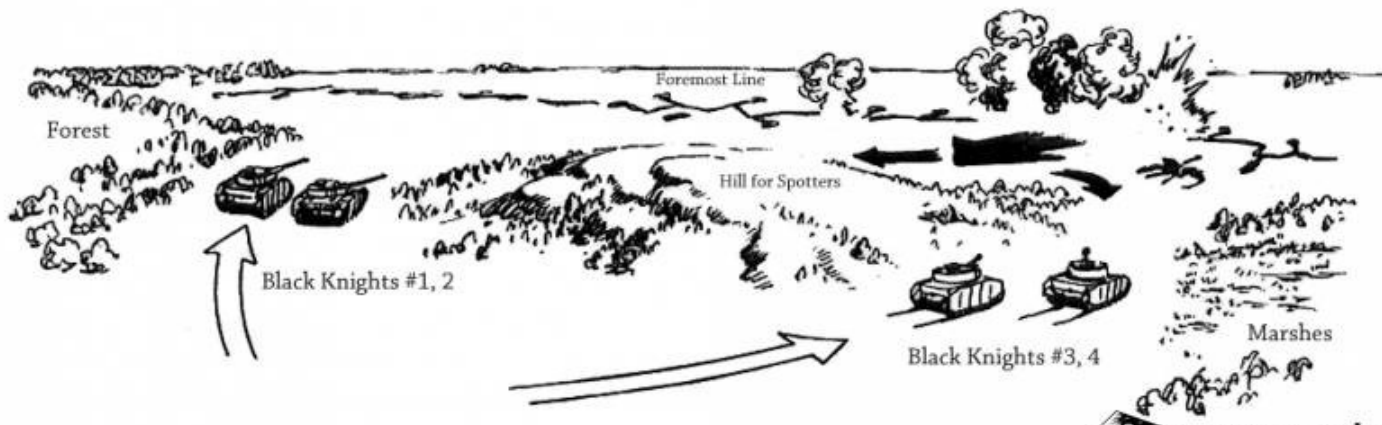
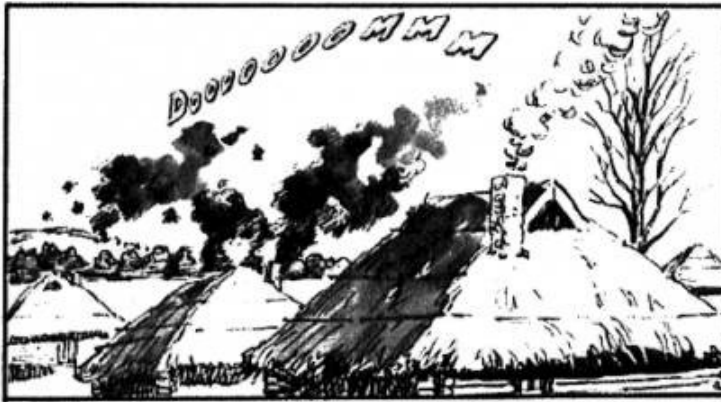
"Fire! At Point-Blank Range!"



*Read Left to Right for this manga.









ROGER THAT.
AIMING FOR THE
FRONT-MOST
TANKS NOW.





DOM

THERE'S TOO MANY GUESTS!

BLACK KNIGHT 2, REFRAIN FROM ENGAGING THEM FROM THE FRONT!
RETREAT AT FULL SPEED BEHIND THE HILLS!
B.K. 3 AND 4! ARE YOU THERE!?

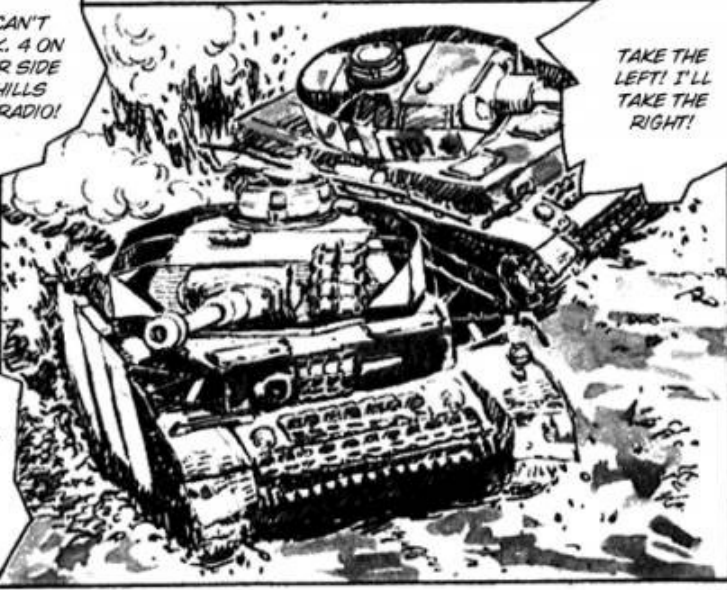


I THINK THE ENEMIES LOST SIGHT OF US.



SHIT! I CAN'T REACH B.K. 4 ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HILLS WITH THE RADIO!

B.K. 2! DON'T LET THE ENEMIES TAKE THE HILLS! STORM THEIR FLANKS!



TAKE THE LEFT! I'LL TAKE THE RIGHT!

ENEMY
TANK 300M
AWAY AT 2
O'CLOCK!

SHOOT!

IT'S A
HIT!

DOKOW

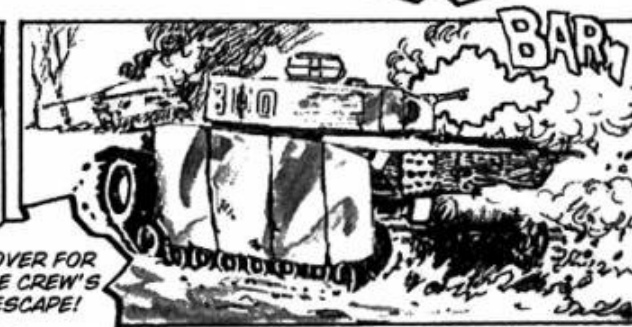
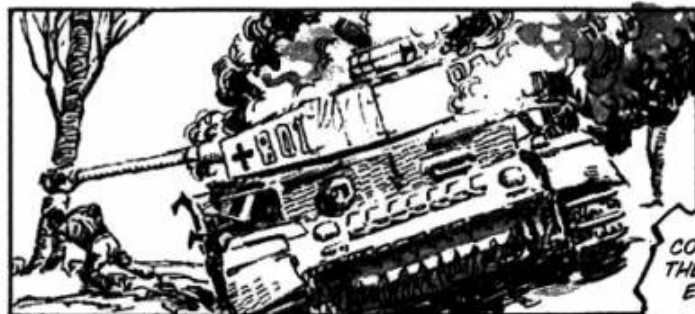
NICE HIT!
TARGET AT
50M, 2
O'CLOCK!

DAMN
NYEMTSY!

QUICKLY!

SHELL
LOADED!







A LITTLE
MORE
TO THE
RIGHT!



GOOD,
FIRE!



I WON'T LET ANYONE
TALK SHIT ABOUT YOU,
KURZ WEBER. YOU'RE
ONE FINE SOLDIER.
I'LL EVEN GIVE YOU
ONE OF MY MEDALS.

Episode 2
"Panzer vor!"
Iron Coffin or not!

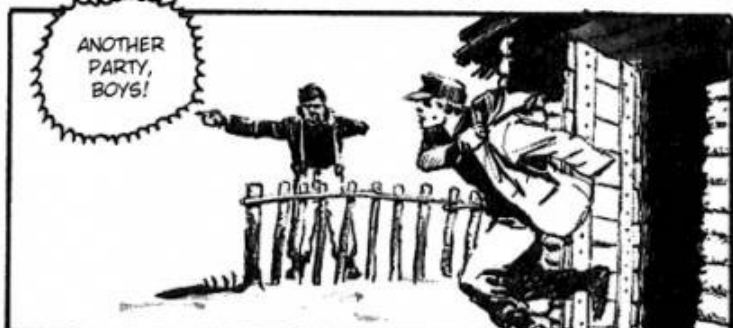




PANZER-
FAUST TO
BLACK
KNIGHTS!
CODE 7
ALERT!



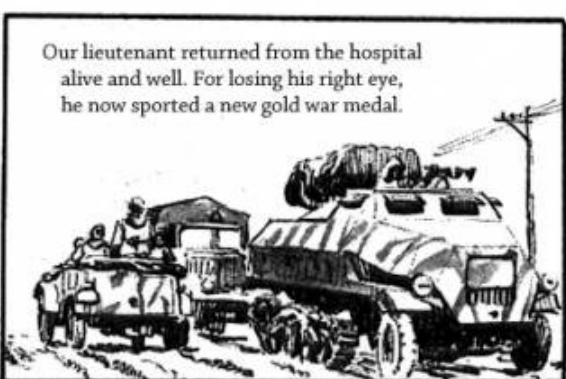
ANOTHER
PARTY,
BOYS!



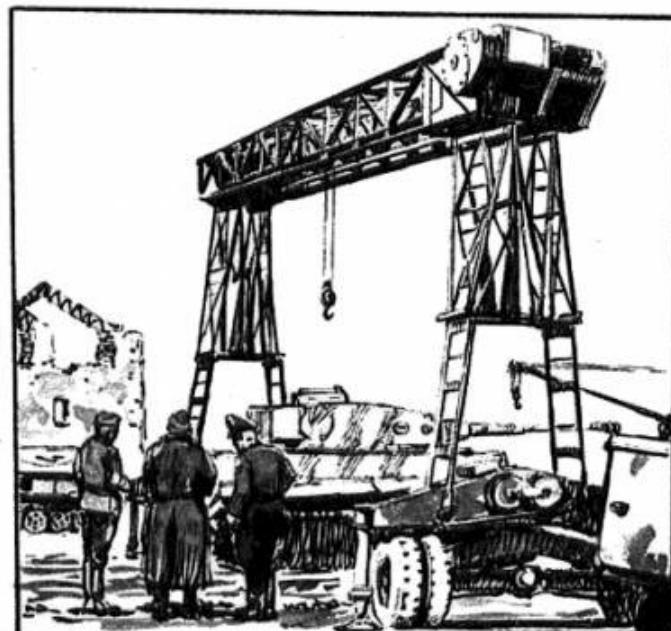
GET IT
READY TO BE
SENT FOR
REPAIRS!

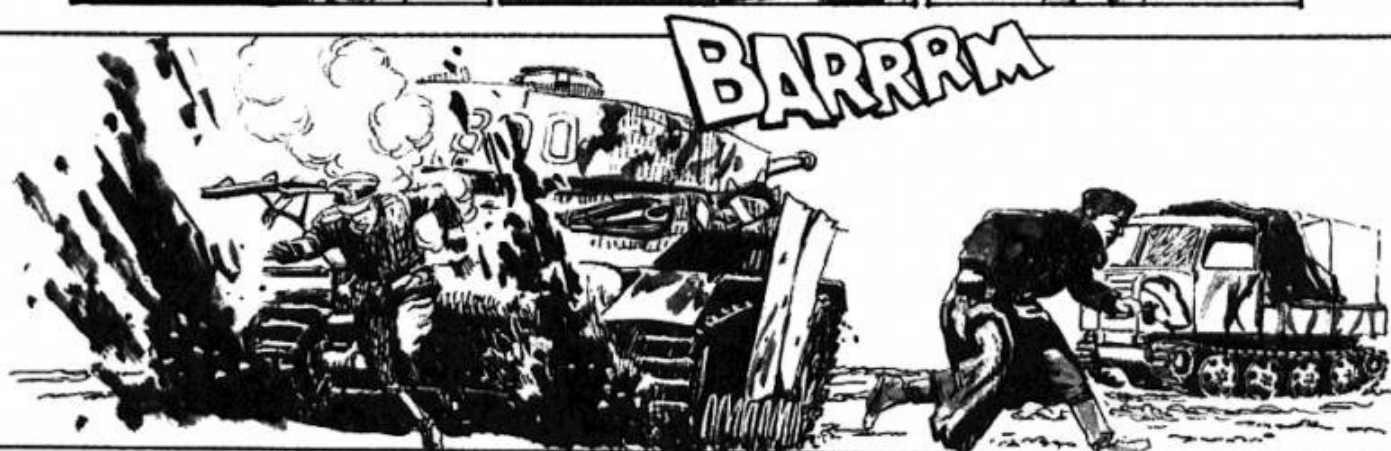


Our lieutenant returned from the hospital
alive and well. For losing his right eye,
he now sported a new gold war medal.



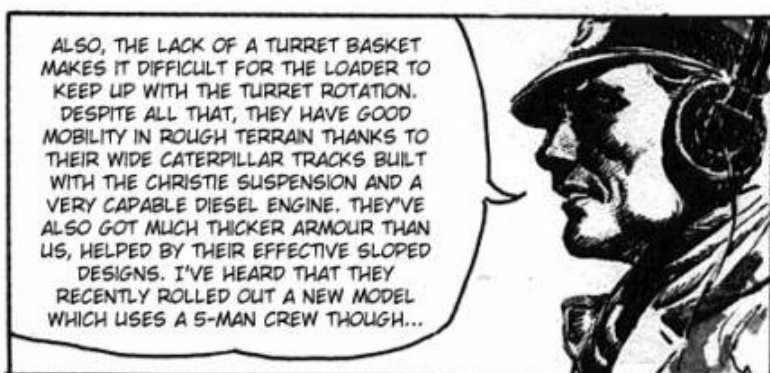
His 800-tank was sent in for repairs.
Generally, there was one armoured vehicle
repair company assigned for each panzer
battalion. These repairmen worked night
and day fixing damaged hulls, engines,
and cannons.



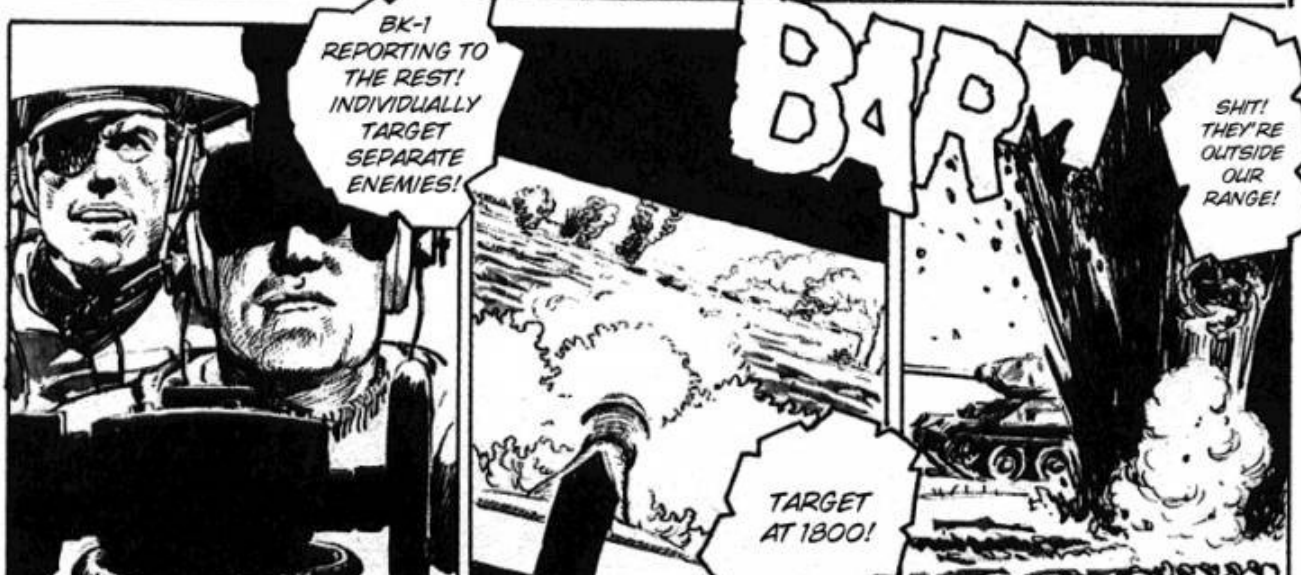
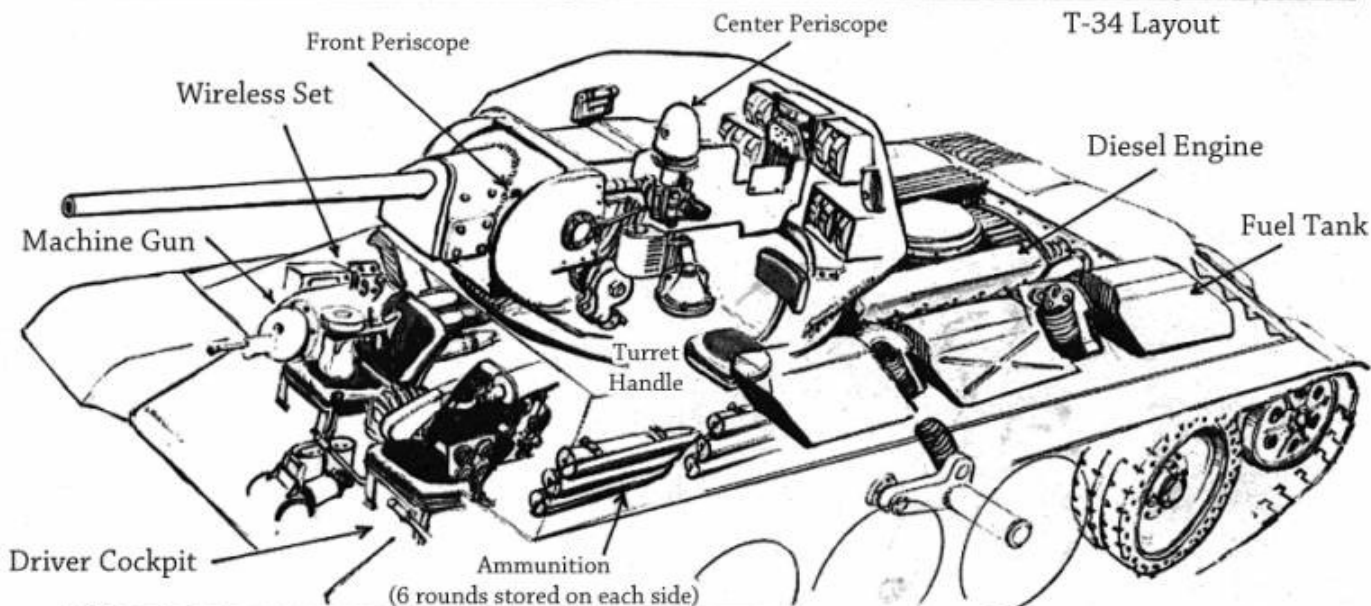




THEY USE A 4-MAN CREW, ONE LESS THAN US, SO THEIR COMMANDER HAS TO AIM AND FIRE IN ADDITION TO HIS COMMAND DUTIES. MEANWHILE, THEIR GUNNER HAS TO GET SPARE AMMUNITION FROM THE FLOOR BOXES UNDER THE TURRET.



ALSO, THE LACK OF A TURRET BASKET MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THE LOADER TO KEEP UP WITH THE TURRET ROTATION. DESPITE ALL THAT, THEY HAVE GOOD MOBILITY IN ROUGH TERRAIN THANKS TO THEIR WIDE CATERPILLAR TRACKS BUILT WITH THE CHRISTIE SUSPENSION AND A VERY CAPABLE DIESEL ENGINE. THEY'VE ALSO GOT MUCH THICKER ARMOUR THAN US, HELPED BY THEIR EFFECTIVE SLOPED DESIGNS. I'VE HEARD THAT THEY RECENTLY ROLLED OUT A NEW MODEL WHICH USES A 5-MAN CREW THOUGH...



BK-1
REPORTING TO
THE REST!
INDIVIDUALLY
TARGET
SEPARATE
ENEMIES!

BARN

SHIT!
THEY'RE
OUTSIDE
OUR
RANGE!

TARGET
AT 1800!

BAOOM BAKOM



DOKOW



WHAT'S
GOING ON?
THEIR 75MM
GUNS
SHOULDN'T
BE ABLE TO
REACH US!

BAKOW



AGHH!
IT'S A
T-34-85!



BK-1 TO BK-2!
YOU'VE GOT
SMOKE COMING
FROM YOUR
ENGINE!
RETREAT!



PANZERFAUST,
THIS IS THE
BLACK
KNIGHTS.
REQUESTING
IMMEDIATE
REINFORCE-
MENTS, OVER!



WE'VE GOT TOO MANY
GUESTS OVER HERE
AND CAN'T SPARE ANY
WAITERS FOR YOUR
PARTY AT THE MOMENT.
DO YOUR BEST TO
DELAY THEM!







BAKOOM



WHAT'S OUR STATUS?

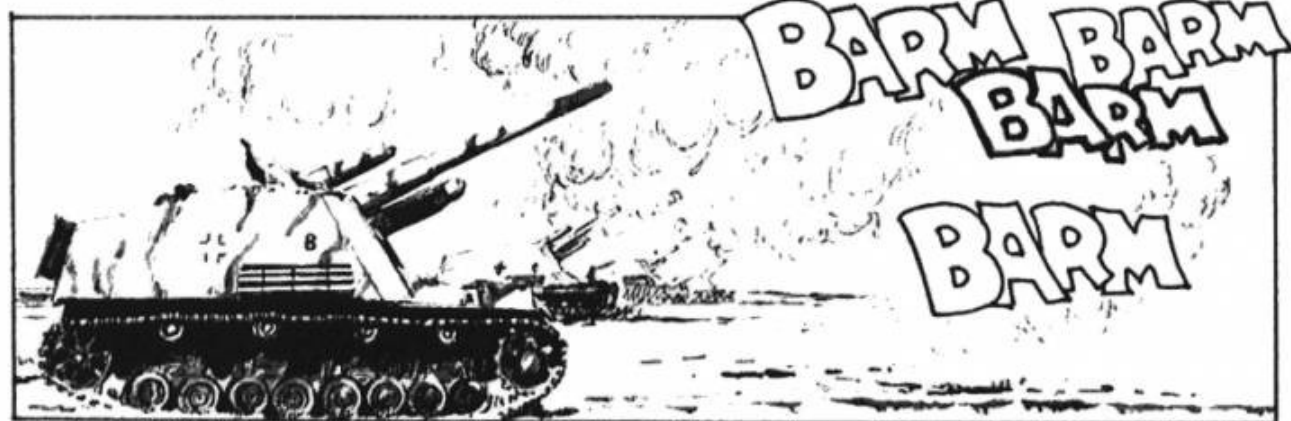
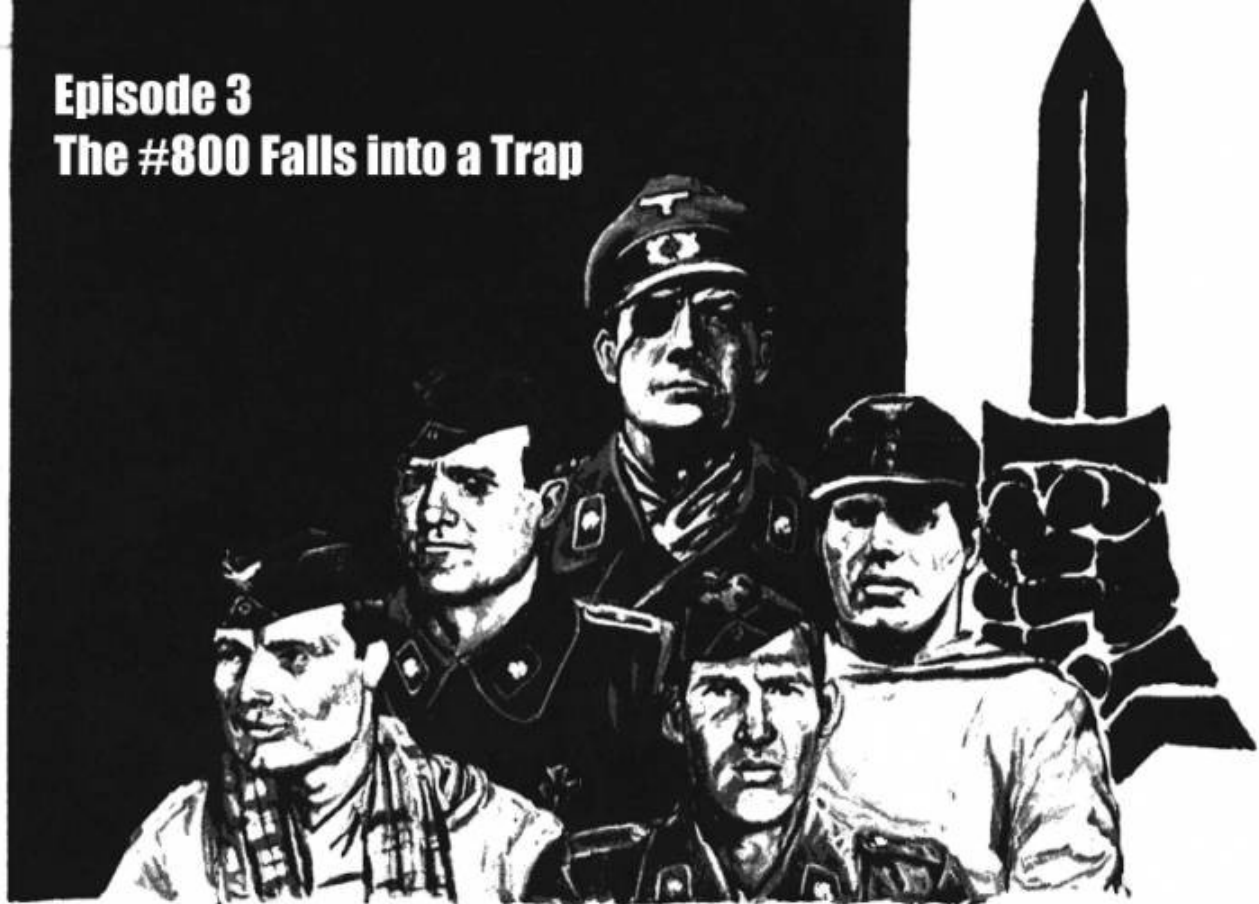


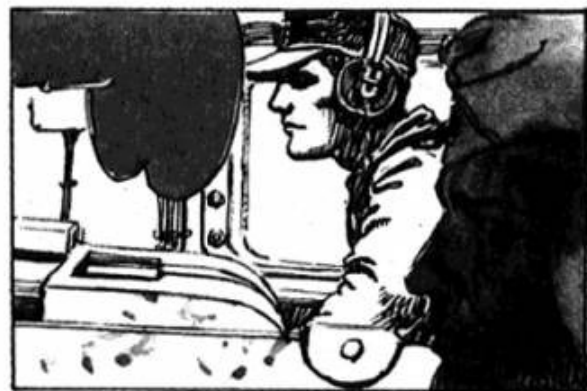
11 DEAD,
17 WOUNDED,
7 TANKS LOST,
3 TANKS
DAMAGED BUT
POSSIBLE TO
REPAIR.

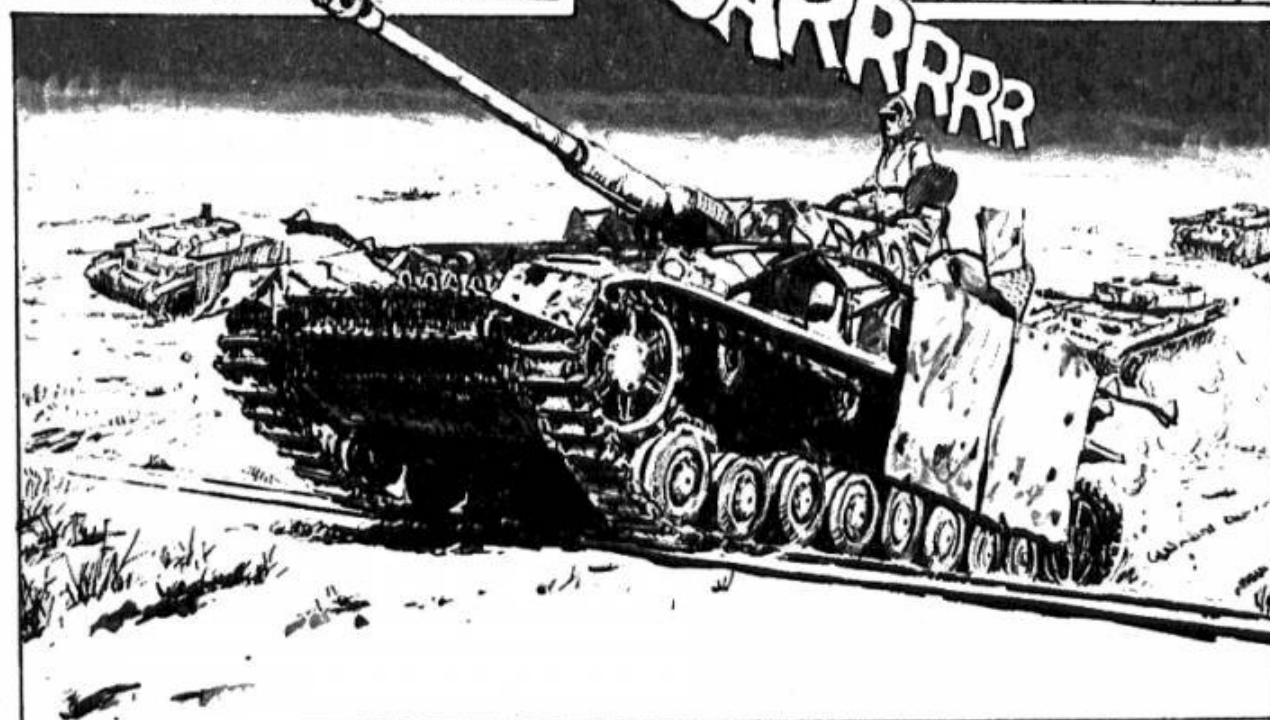
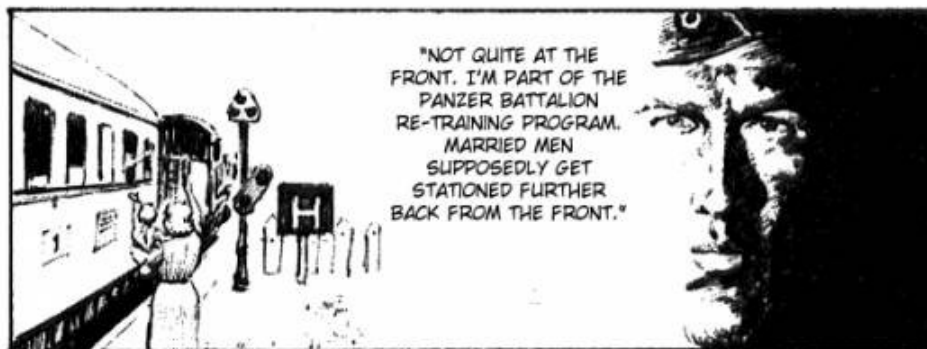


Episode 3

The #800 Falls into a Trap

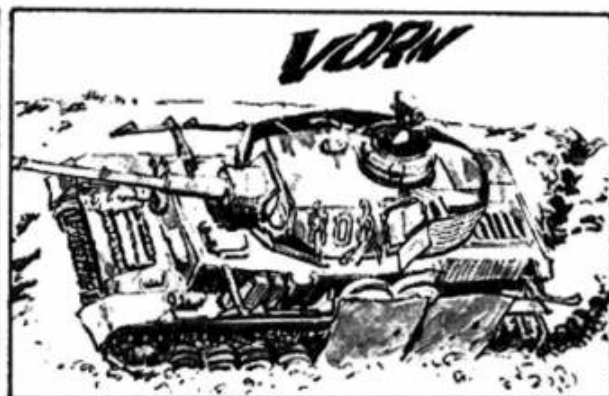
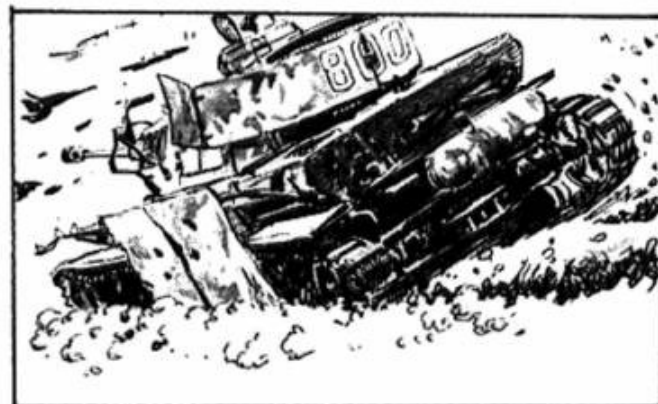








REDUCE
SPEED. THE
GROUND IS
WEAK HERE.



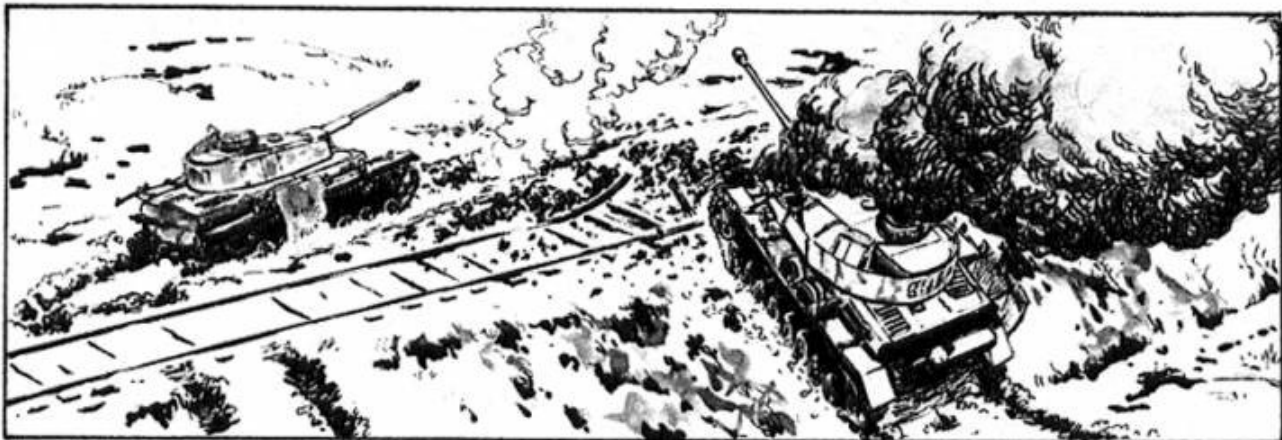
CANNONS
1, 2, AND 3.
AIM AT ENEMY
TANK AT
BOOM!



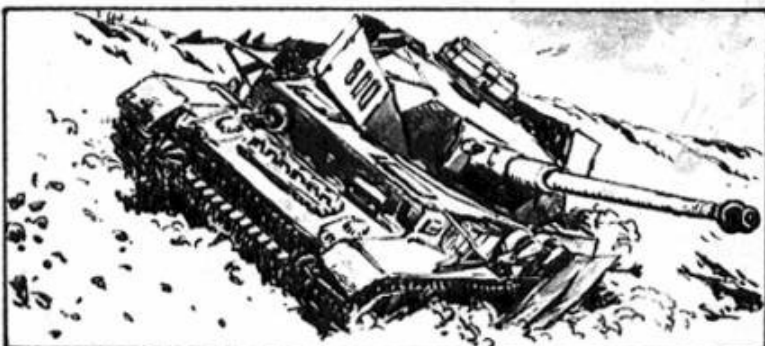


COMING
TO BACK
YOU UP,
OVER!





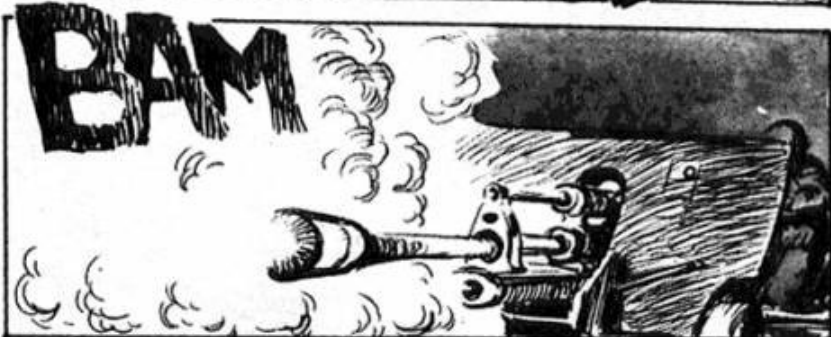
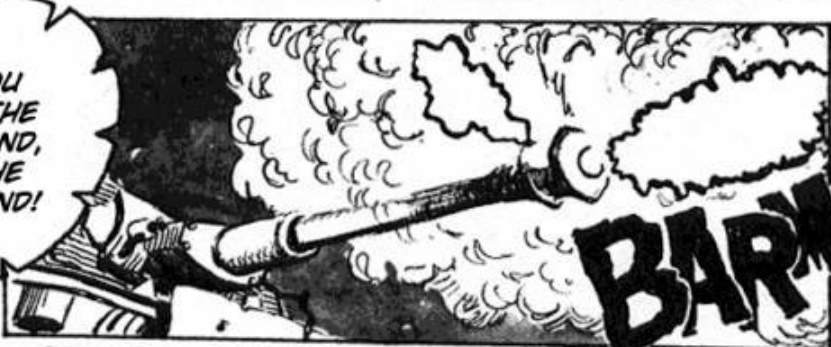
PREPARE
TO FIRE
AT ENEMY
PAK!



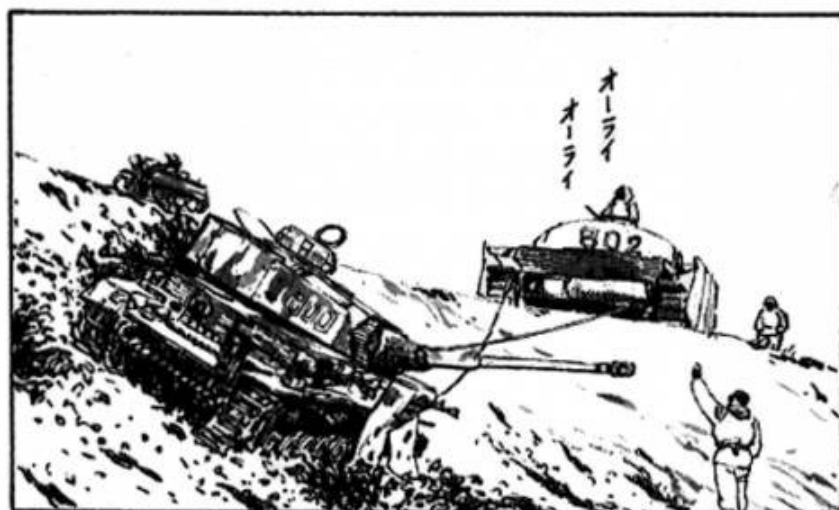
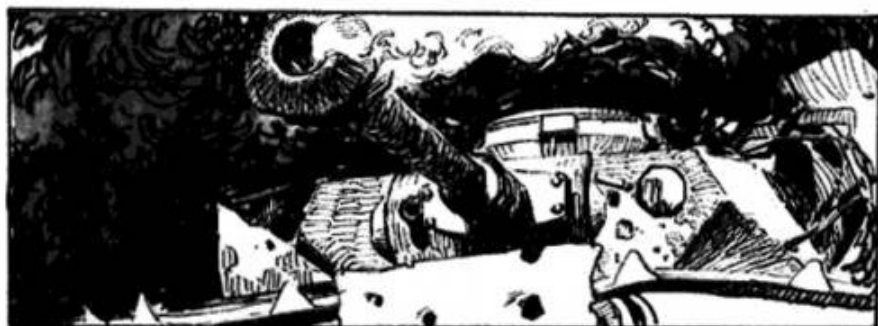
ARE
THEY
CRAZY?



NO, YOU
IDIOT! THE
HE-ROUND,
NOT THE
AP-ROUND!



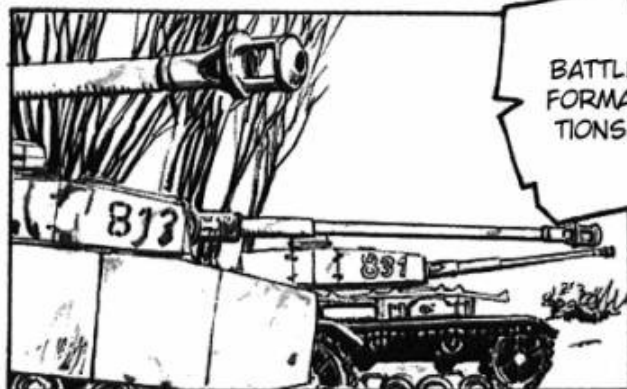




Episode 4

The Goddess of Fate Gave us Strength





BATTLE
FORMATIONS!



GUESTS
SPOTTED AT
11 O'CLOCK!
CLOSE THE
DISTANCE
QUICKLY,
KNIGHTS!



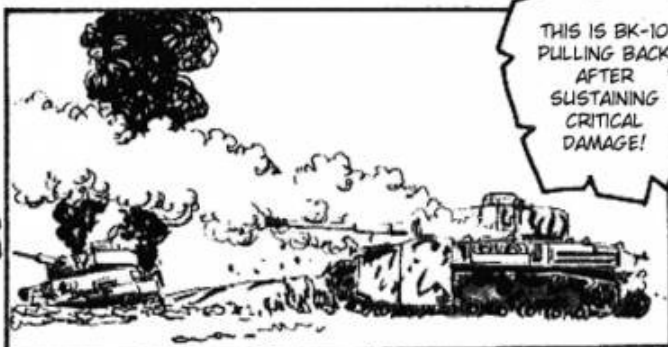
ENEMIES ARE
T-34-85s!
BEAR WITH IT
UNTIL THEY'RE
IN OUR
RANGE!



BLACK
KNIGHT #6
IS HIT AND
NOW
ABANDON-
ING TANK!



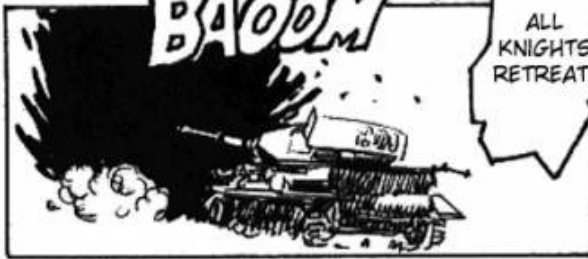
DOKOM
BARM



THIS IS BK-10
PULLING BACK
AFTER
SUSTAINING
CRITICAL
DAMAGE!



SHIT! THERE'S
TOO MANY OF
THEM! HALT
ATTACK AND
RETREAT!



BAOOM

ALL
KNIGHTS
RETREAT!



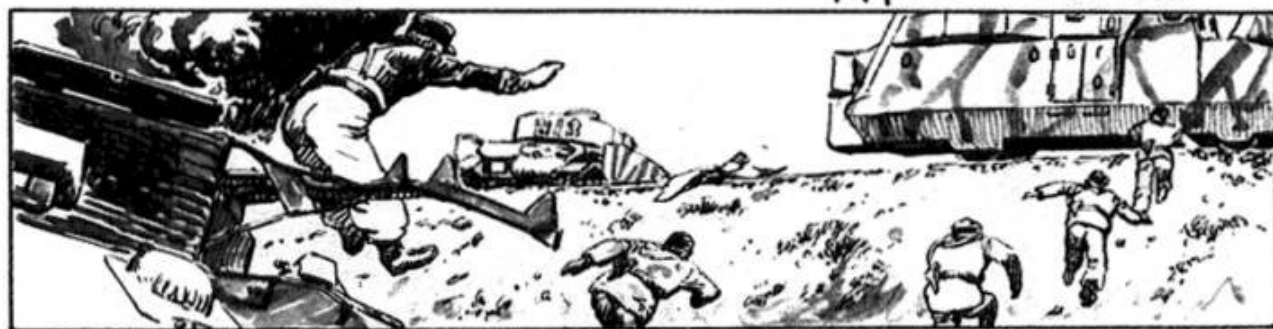
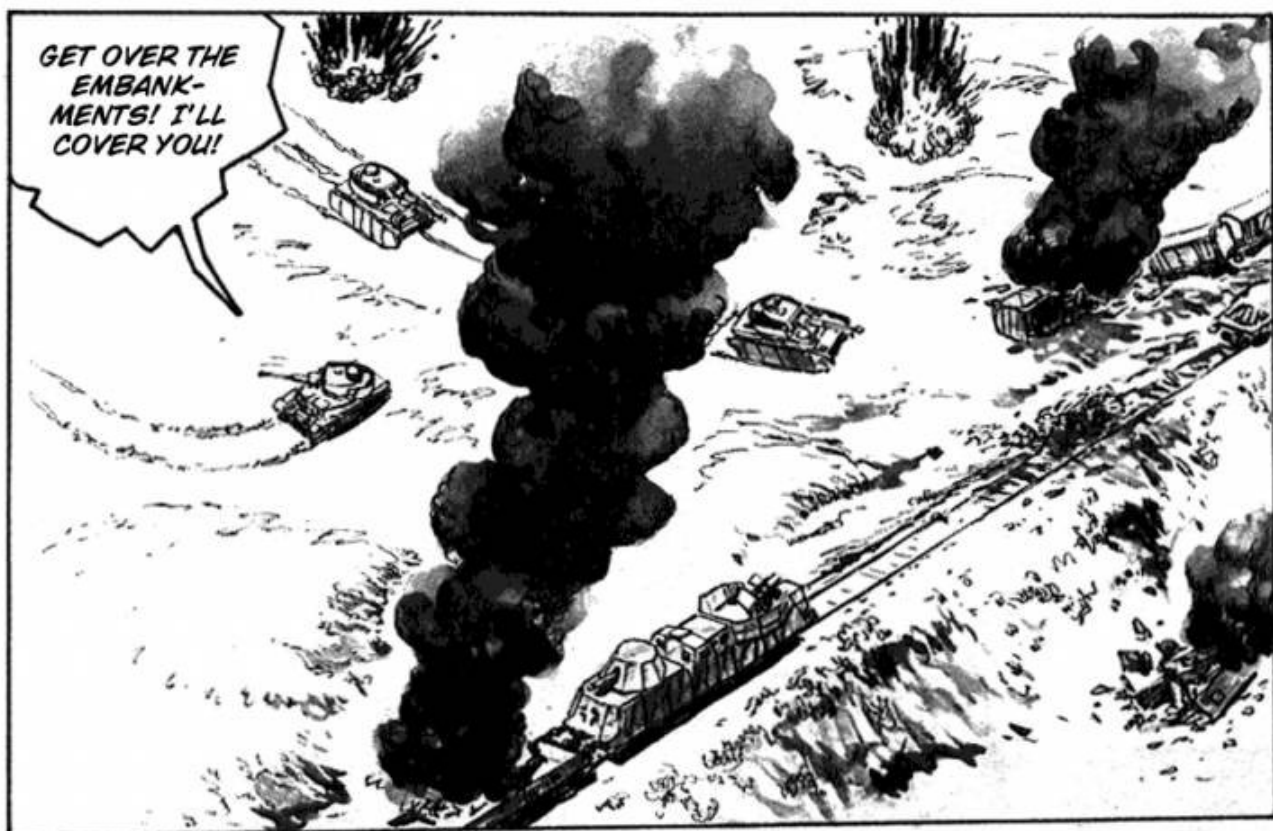
DOKOOOM

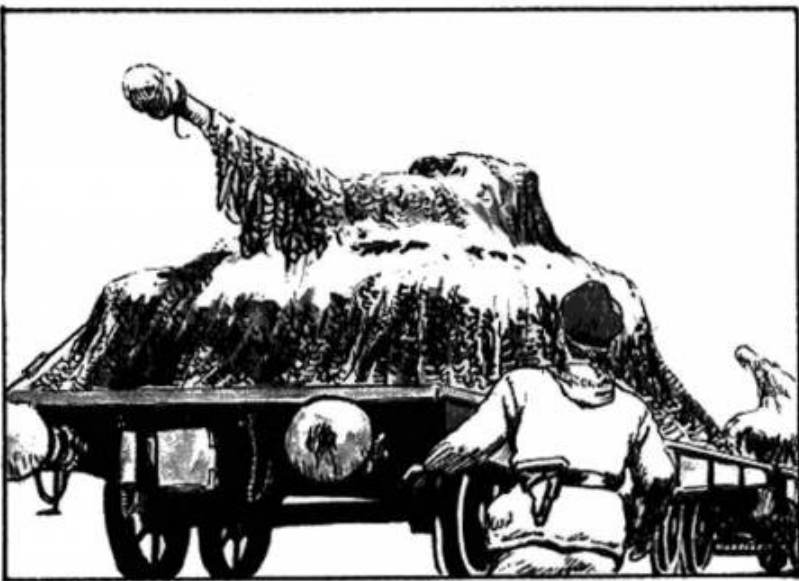
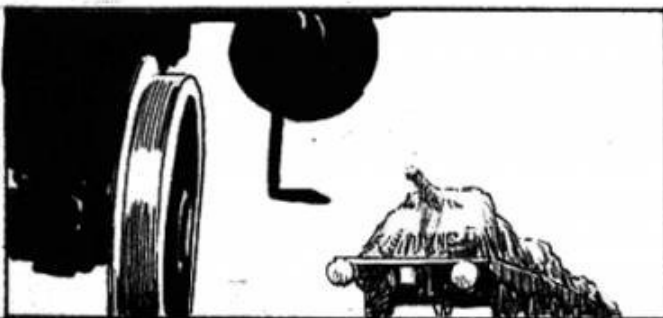
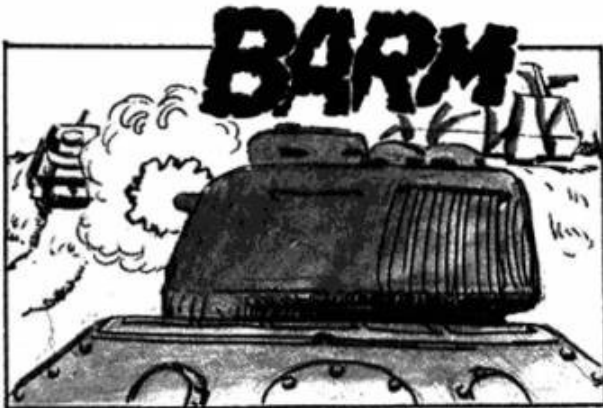
VORRRRR



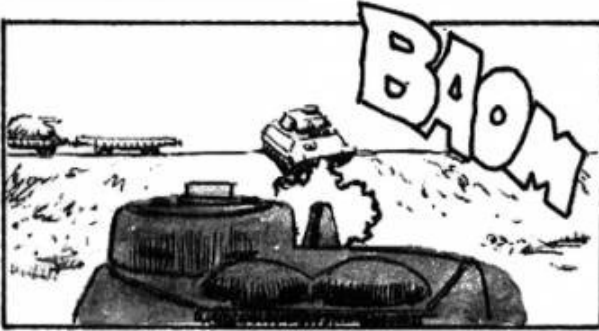
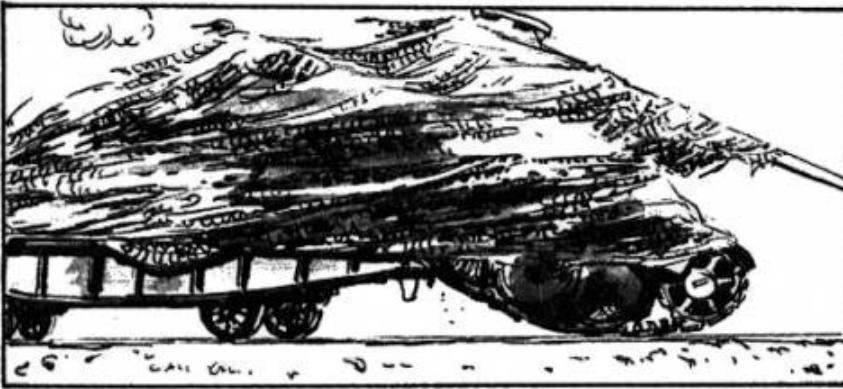
SHIT! THE
IVANS ARE
ON OUR
TAIL!













PANZERFAUST, THIS IS THE
BLACK KNIGHTS REPORT-
ING. WE'VE ROUTED THE
ENEMY BUT LOST 5 TANKS
IN PROCESS. OUR
CURRENT STRENGTH IS
13 TANKS, OVER.



THIS IS PANZER-
FAUST. PLEASE
COUNT AGAIN, YOU
MUST HAVE MADE
AN ERROR.

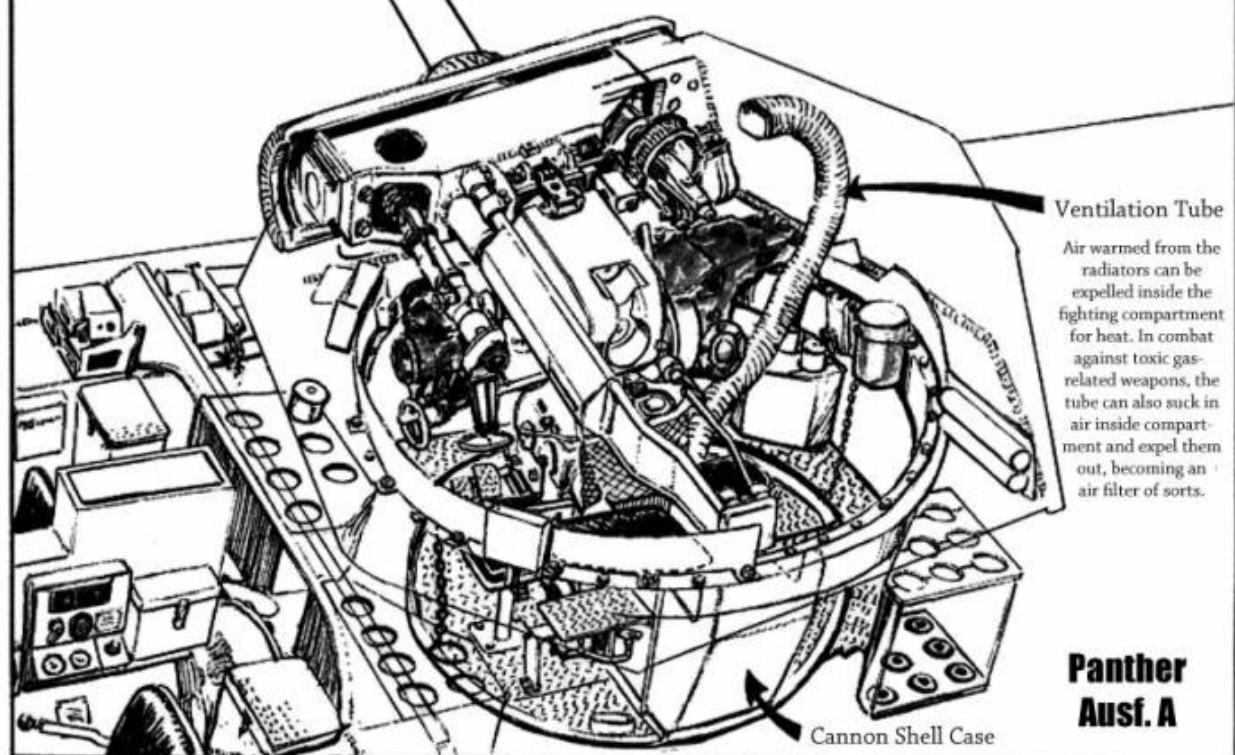
KISS MY ASS,
ENDING
TRANSMISSION!

#8th Company Battle Report
As recorded by Sgt. Schultz.

5 Tanks lost in action. Compensated losses with addition of 6 new Panthers.

Episode 5

The Grim Reaper's Sudden Arrival

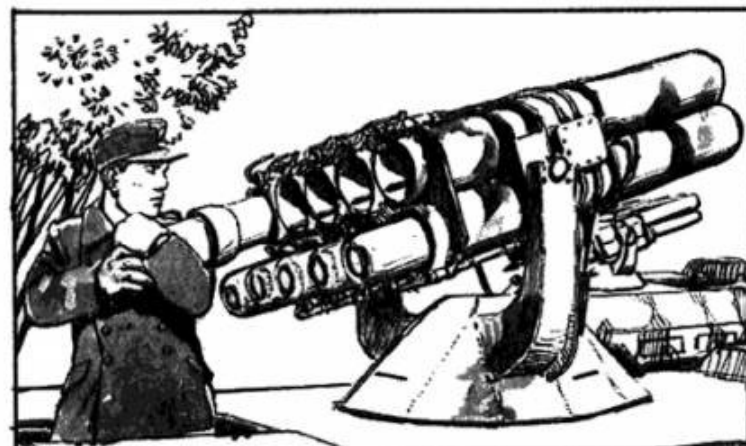


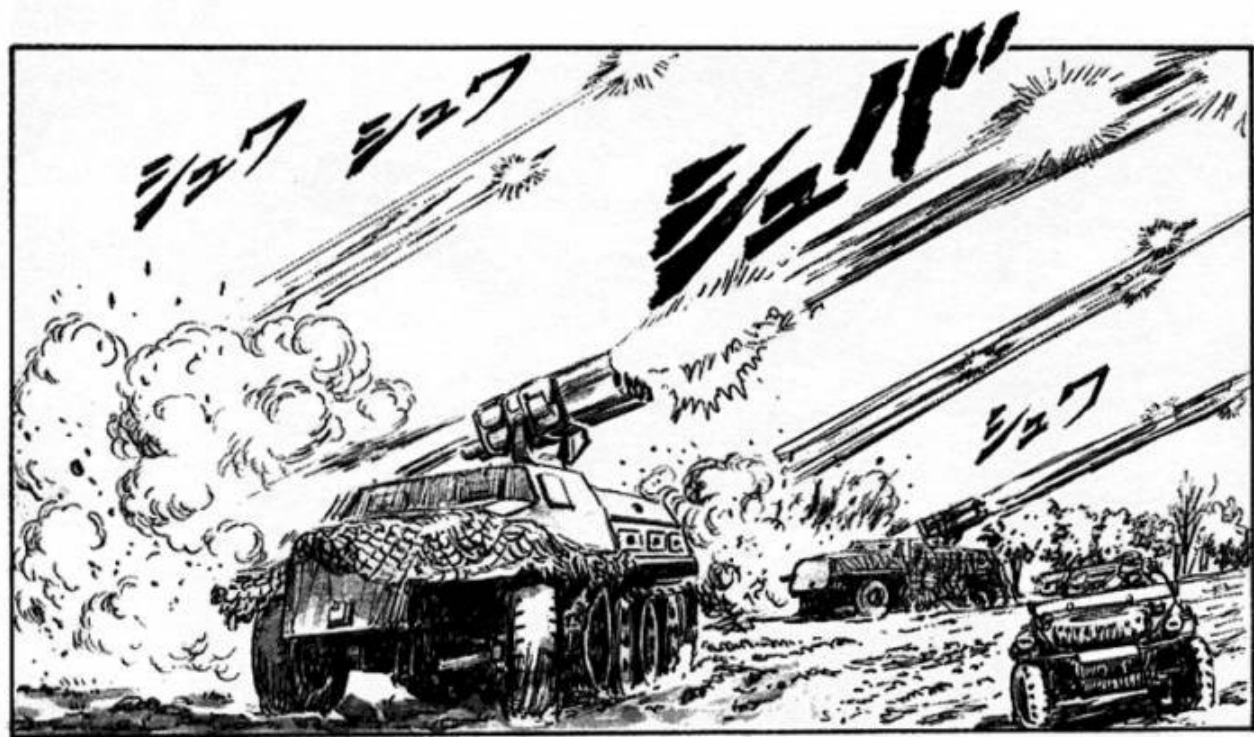
8th Company Battle Logs Recorded by Sgt. Schultz

Lt. Bauer's #800 and my tank went out for a reconnaissance mission early in the morning when we came across large numbers of enemy tank caterpillar track prints.





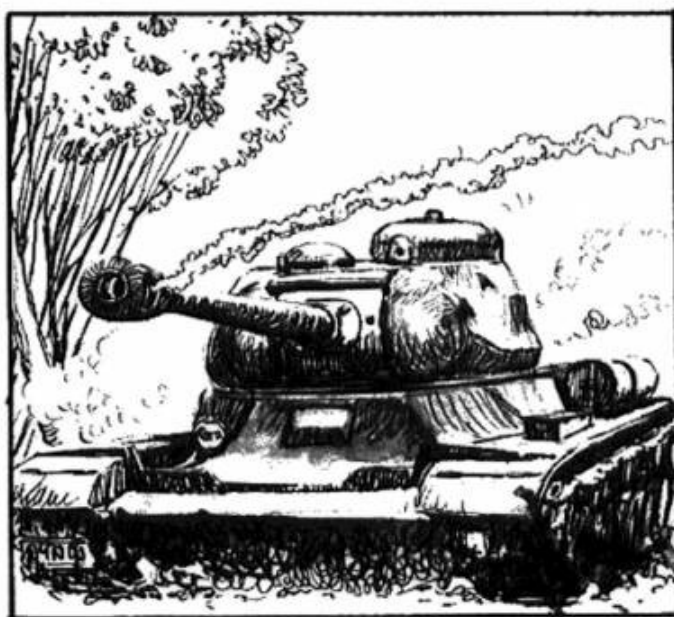




PULL
BACK AT
FULL
SPEED!



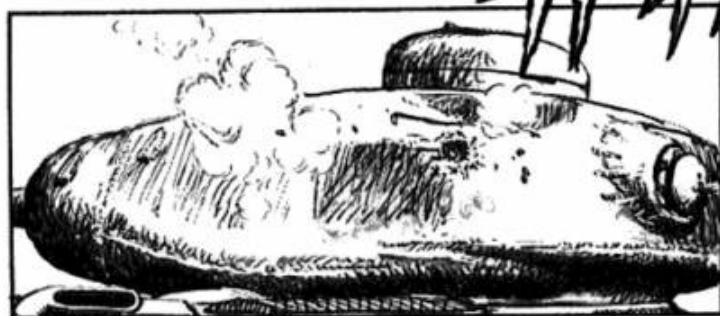
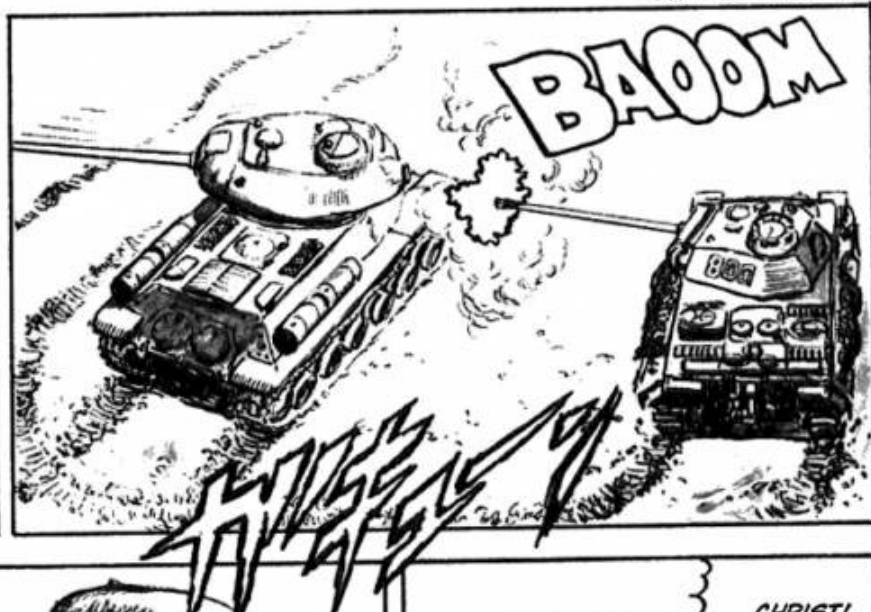
БУН-ЗООМ!
ВТНООМ
БАФООМ





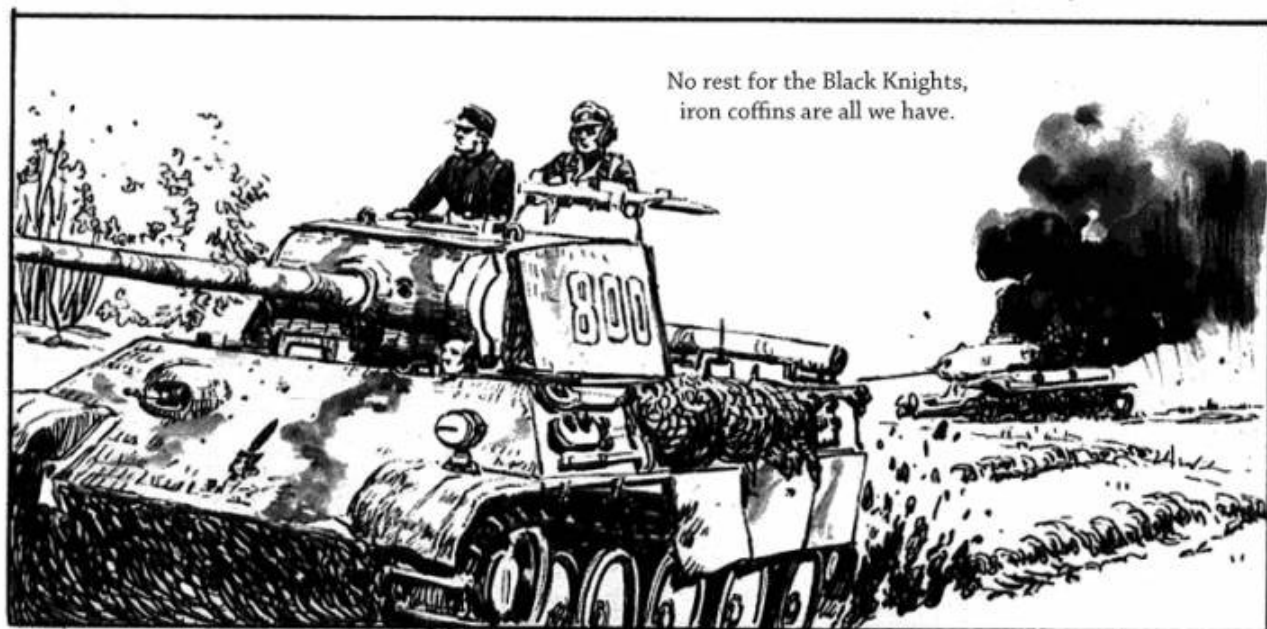
BORRR





GO FOR THE
VERY FRONT
AT THE VISOR
GLASS BLOCK
WHERE THE
ARMOUR'S
WEAKEST!







Episode 6

Knights of the Apocalypse



The German defensive lines on the Eastern Front had crumbled in light of the renewed Soviet offensive. The once fearful aura of the great German army was now nowhere to be seen.



The Soviets were now familiar with all the ins and outs of German blitzkrieg tactics,



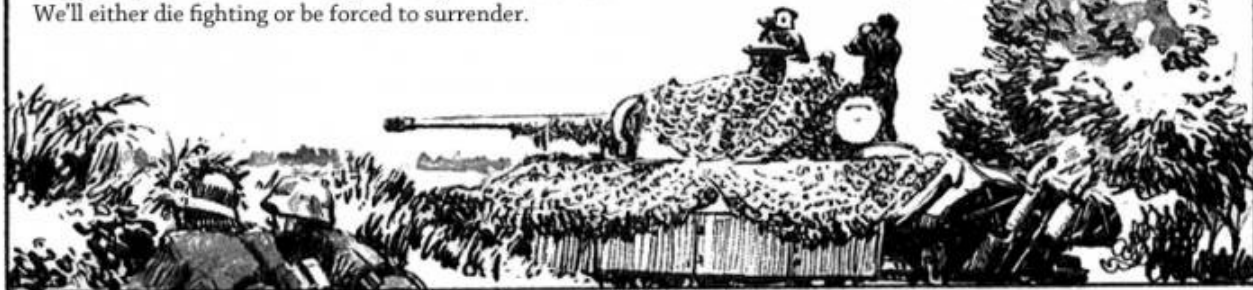
And combined with Soviet superiority in supplies and manpower, the German defensive lines were gradually overcome.



8th Company Battle Logs

It's been 3 days since we've lost communications with our main forces. The main body of the Soviet army passed right through our current location and penetrated our defensive lines, leaving two Panzergrenadier battalions, the surviving remnants of one Luftwaffe Field Division, Delta Command and our 8th Company completely surrounded in enemy territory. The end is near. We'll either die fighting or be forced to surrender.

IT'S QUIET
OVER IN
THE WEST.



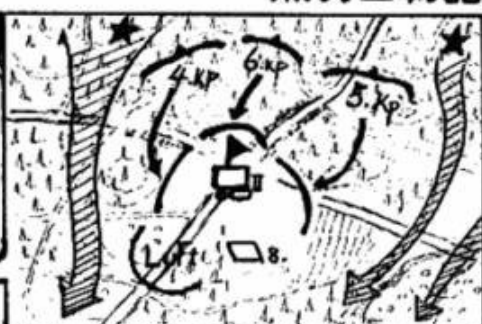
WE'RE STILL
QUITE SOME WAYS
AWAY FROM THE
FRONT LINES OF
ONE SECTION OF
OUR ARMY.



ABOUT
30KM,
I THINK.

IF WE'RE GONNA
RUN BACK TO OUR
SIDE, NOW'S OUR
BEST CHANCE.
IT'LL BE TOO LATE
TOMORROW.





LT. COLONEL,
WE MUST
MAKE A
BREAK
FOR IT.

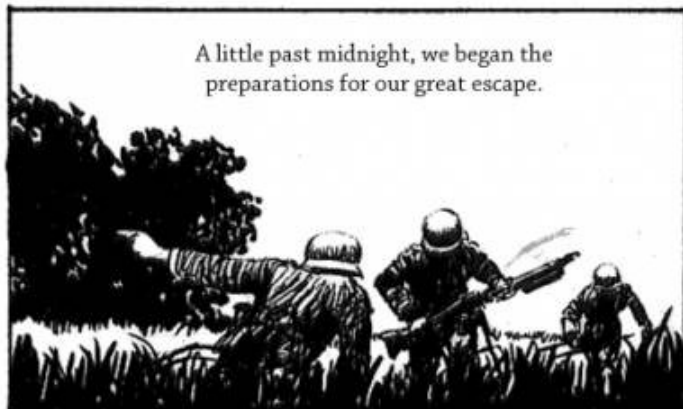


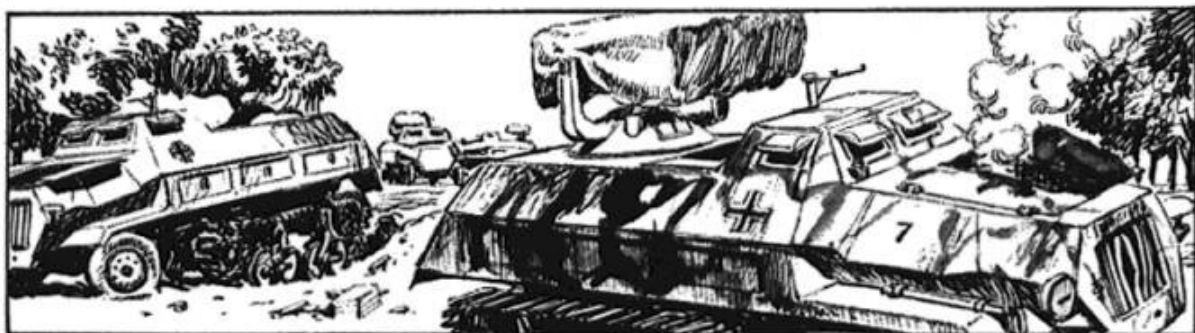
I KNOW,
BUT...!

WE MAY HAVE
BEEN ORDERED
TO STAND OUR
GROUND AND
DIE FIGHTING 3
DAYS AGO BUT
THAT'S ALL
MEANINGLESS
NOW IN LIGHT
OF THE
CURRENT
SITUATION.



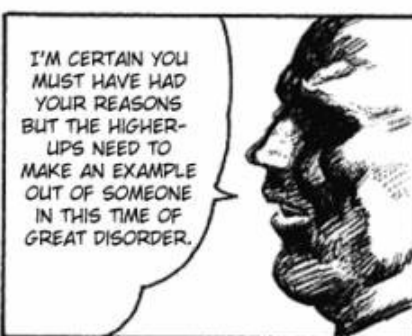
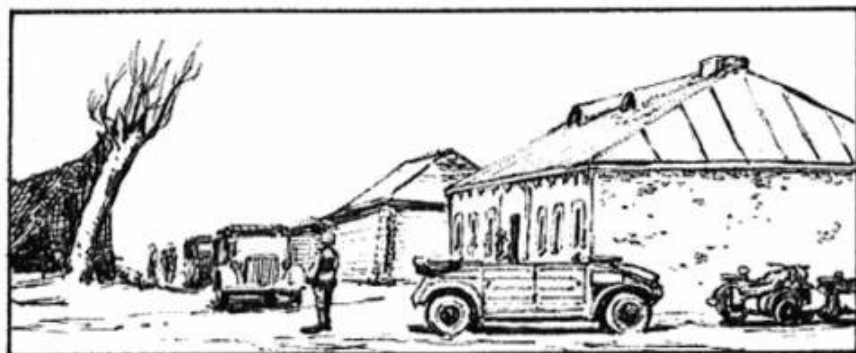
...LT. BAUER, I'M
HANDING COMMAND
OVER TO YOU. LEAD
THE MEN OUT OF
HERE IF YOU CAN.
MEANWHILE, I'LL
STAND MY GROUND
HERE WITH THE
INJURED WHO
CAN'T MOVE.



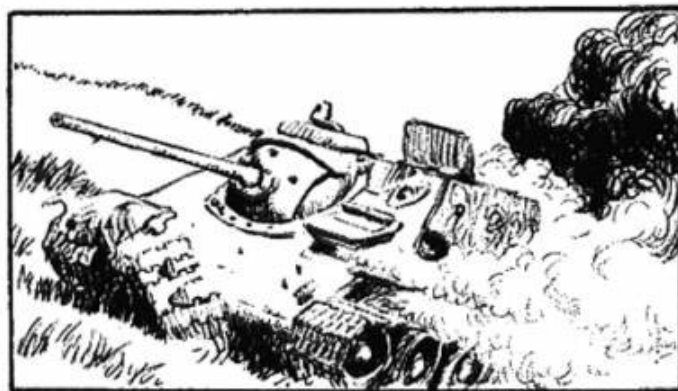
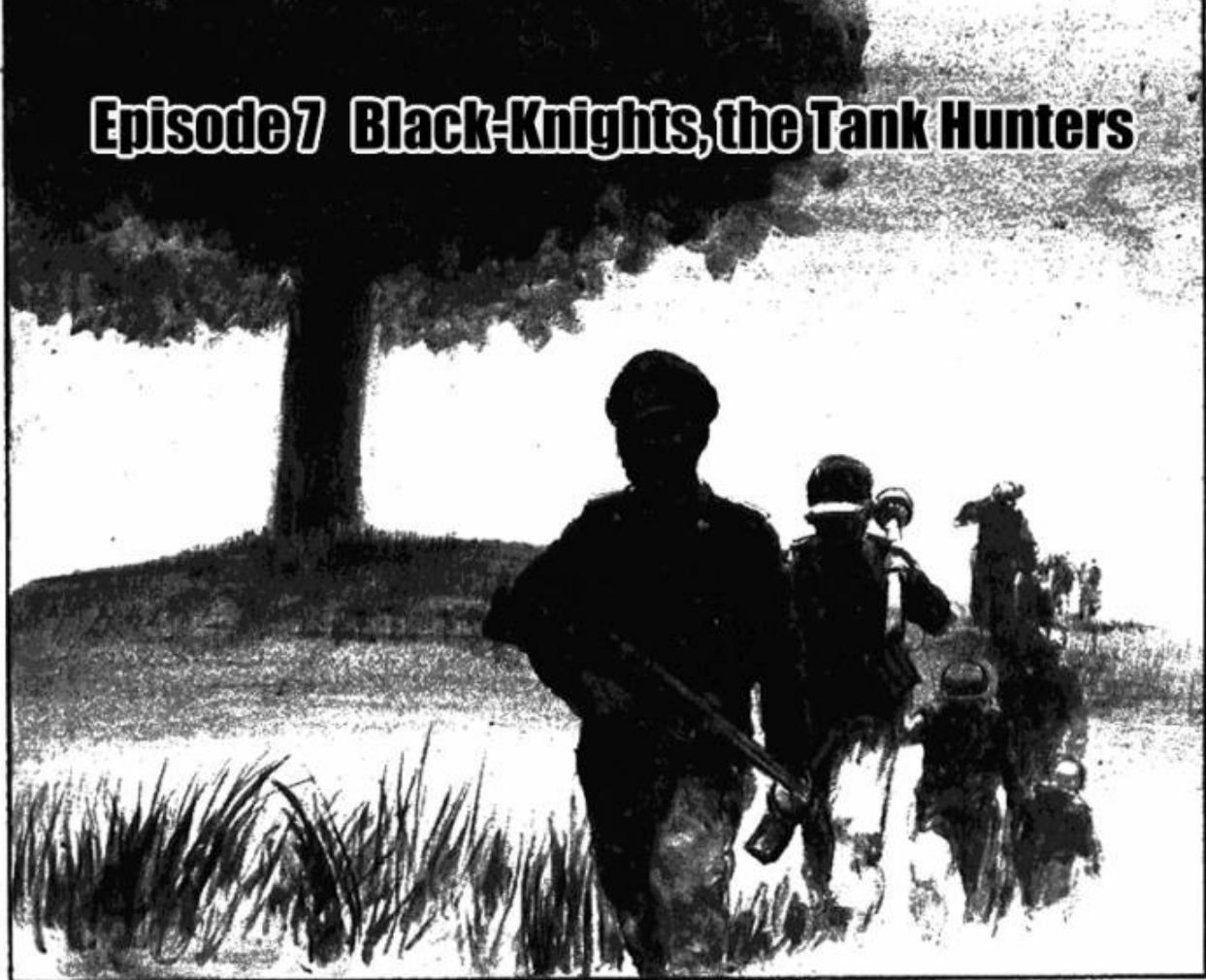


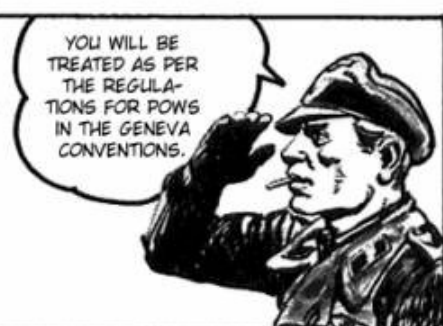






Episode 7 Black-Knights, the Tank Hunters





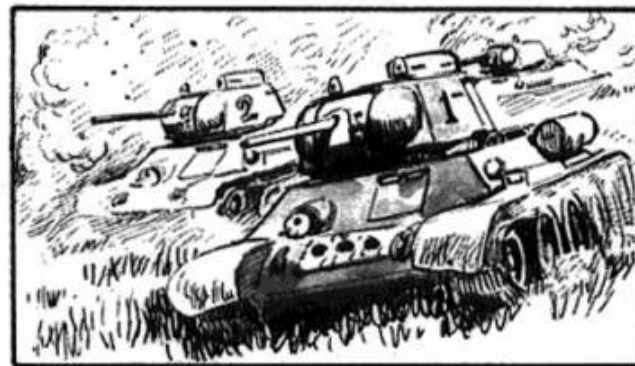


The attacks commenced with bombardments from
Katyusha rocket-launchers,





GeBObObObOb

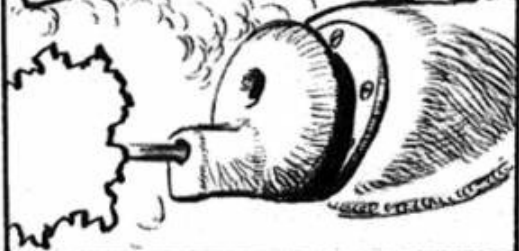


ROGER THAT!



WATCH OUT FOR THE NYEMTSY ON YOUR RIGHT!

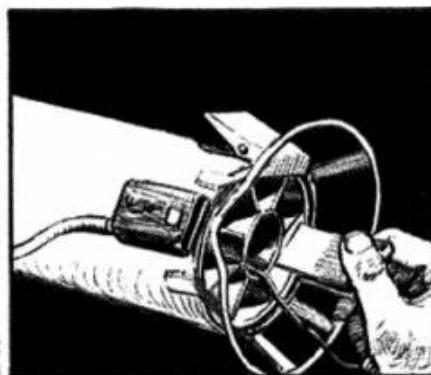
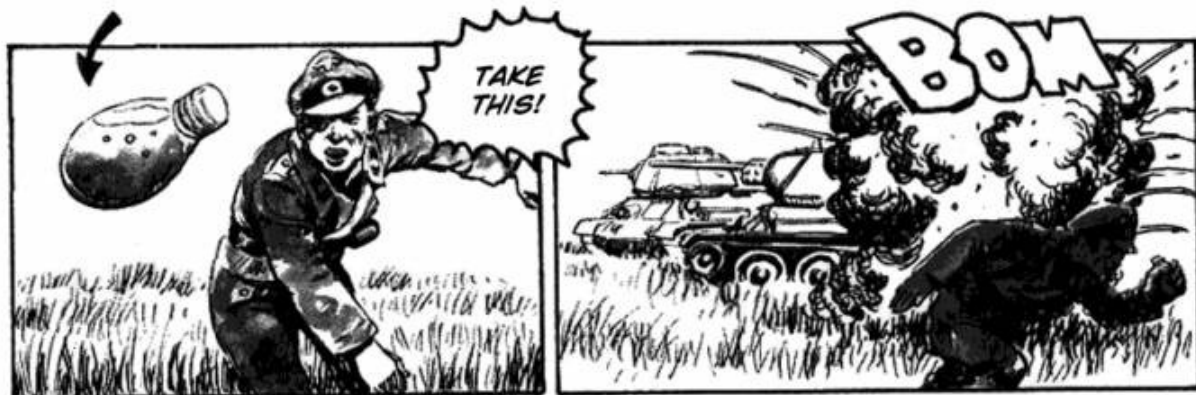
DOKOKOKOKOKO





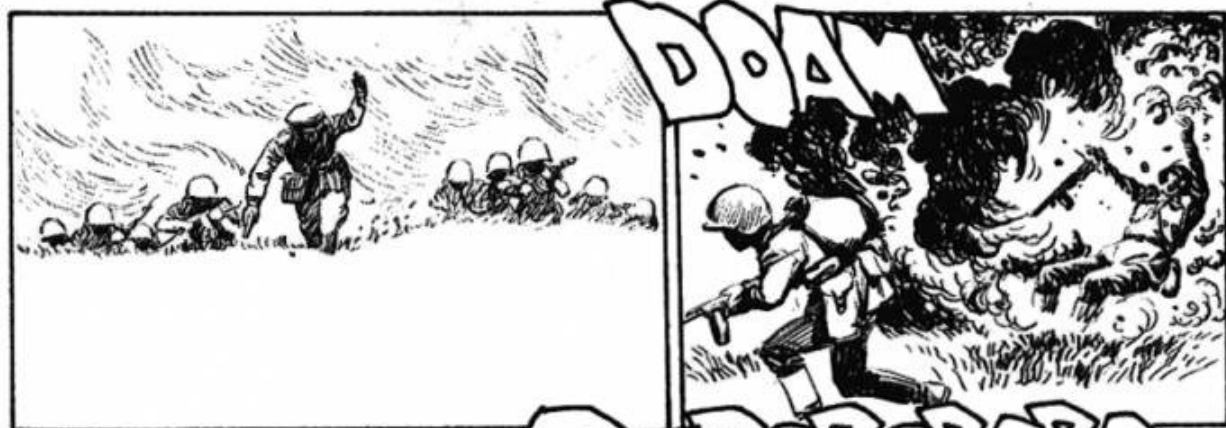


Blendkörper - BK2H Glass Grenade. Filled with a liquid mixture of benzene, water, titanium tetrachloride, calcium chloride. Used mainly to make smoke screens in anti-tank combat.





Episode 8 Dead End





SGT.,
COMMANDER
BAUER'S GIVEN
THE SIGNAL TO
RETREAT!



WHAT DO YOU
MEAN YOU
CAN'T!? SO
YOU'RE JUST
LEAVING US TO
OUR DEATHS!?



LOOK, WE'RE
BUSY TRYING TO
RETREAT OVER
HERE TOO. I'M
SORRY BUT
THERE'S NO WAY
I CAN SUPPORT
YOUR COMPANY.

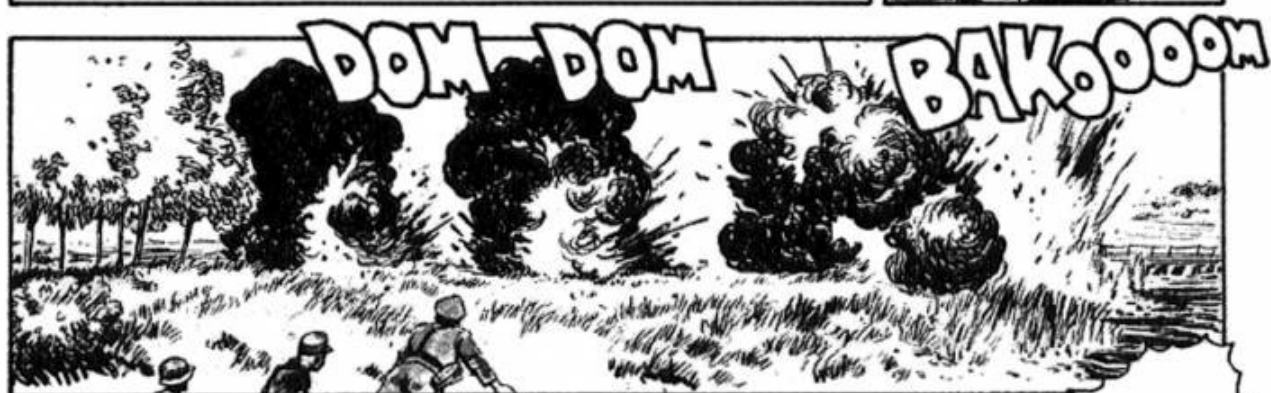


YOU'VE GOT SKM
TO COVER IF YOU
WANT TO MAKE IT
BACK TO BASE.
WATCH OUT FOR THE
BRIDGES. MOST OF
THEM HAVE BEEN
RIGGED TO
EXPLODE IF YOU
GET NEAR THEM.



BURY THE PANZER-
FAUST AND SPARE
AMMUNITION HERE.
WE NEED TO GET
OUT OF HERE ASAP.





BAM!





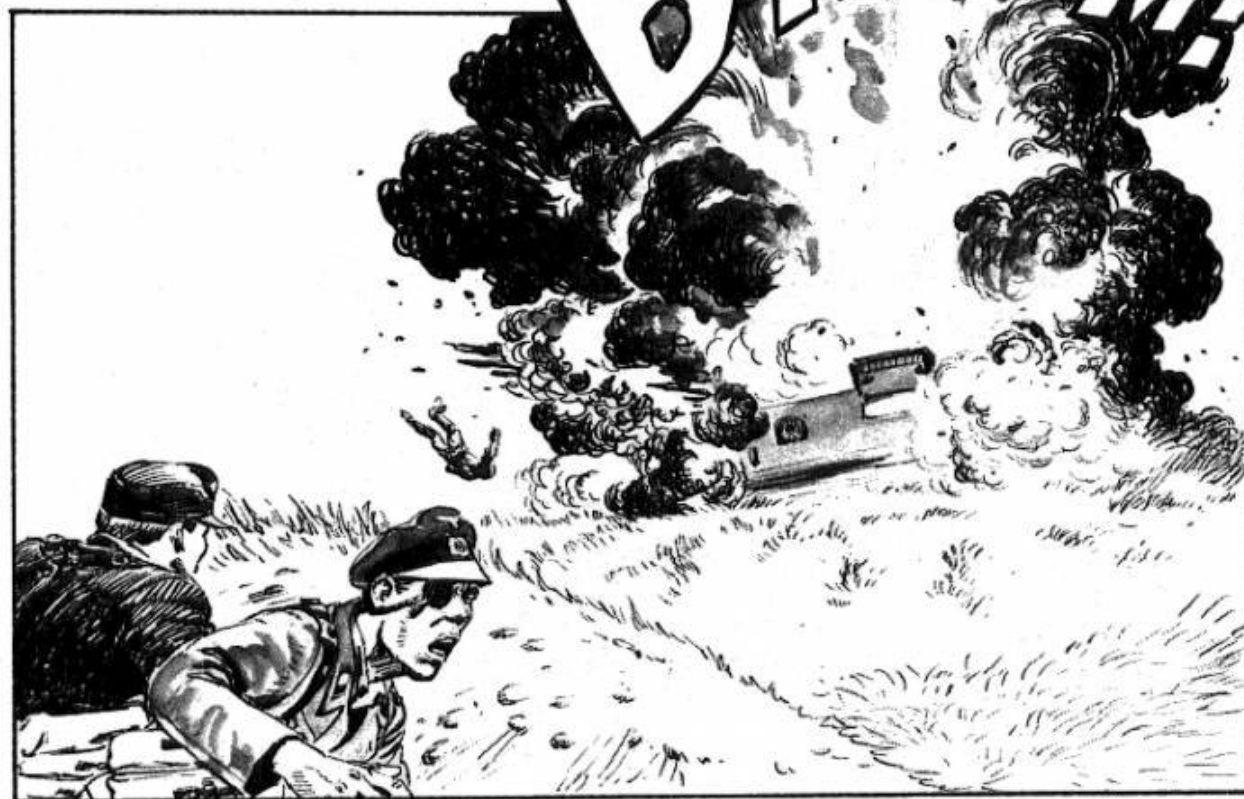




SHIT, I SHOULDN'T
HAVE THROWN
AWAY OUR PANZ-
ERFAUST. THIS IS
MY FAULT...



БУХ-КОО!





Episode 9 Black Knights Reborn







The lieutenant came back with good news. Although there were now only 7 members left, the Black Knight Company was to be revived and resume action on the battlefield. And this time, we'd be working under HQ's direct orders.

Moreover, HQ finally recognized us for our past efforts with promotions and medals. Lt. Bauer was promoted to a captain, Schultz to a lieutenant, and I to a sergeant.



The next day, our new recruits came by, escorted by the Feldgendarmarie. Before joining us, they had been burying corpses, clearing land mines, and doing other kinds of duties no one would want as punishment for breaking military regulations.

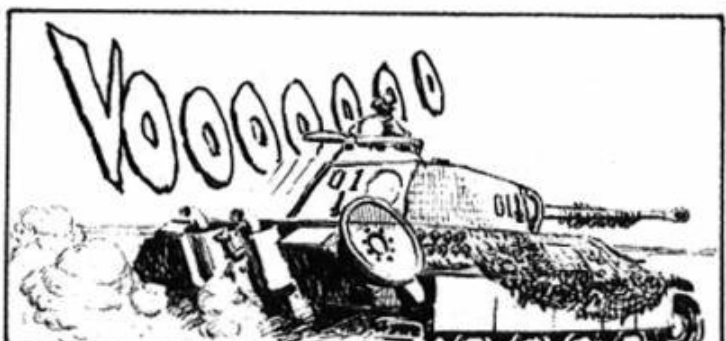
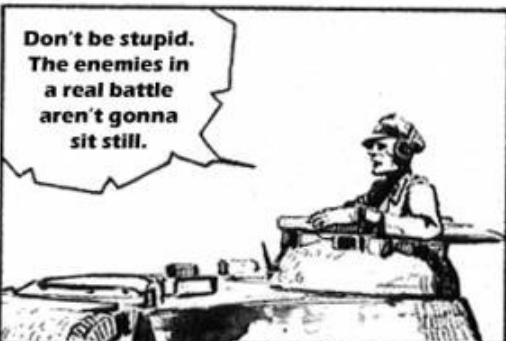


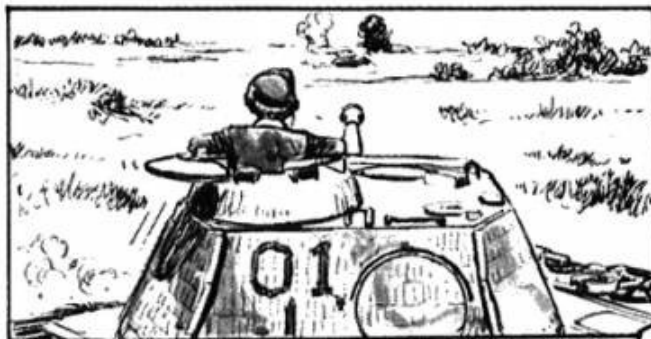
ACHTUNG!





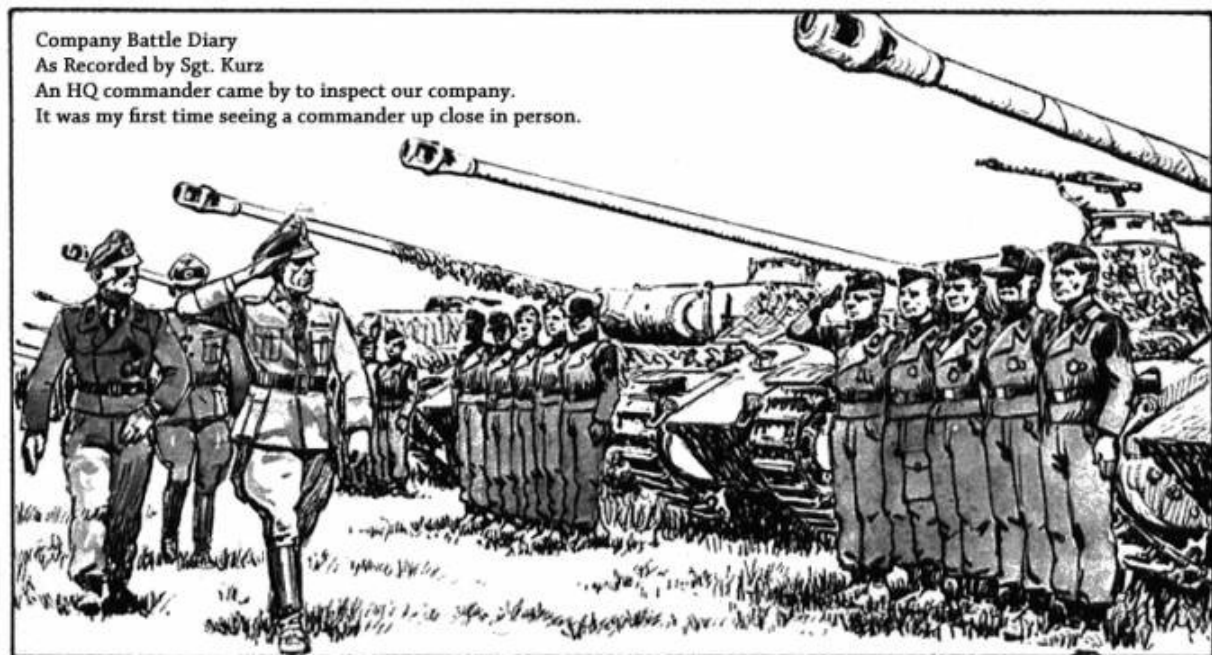






Too slow!
Don't you
even know
how to
adjust your
aim to
account for
your target
speed, you
fool!?

Company Battle Diary
As Recorded by Sgt. Kurz
An HQ commander came by to inspect our company.
It was my first time seeing a commander up close in person.



So what do
you think?
Are they
up to
standards?



All the
training in the
world's useless
compared to
real battle-
experience.



Can't you ever
change your
ways? I've
already lost two
sons. You're the
only son left to
succeed our
household now.

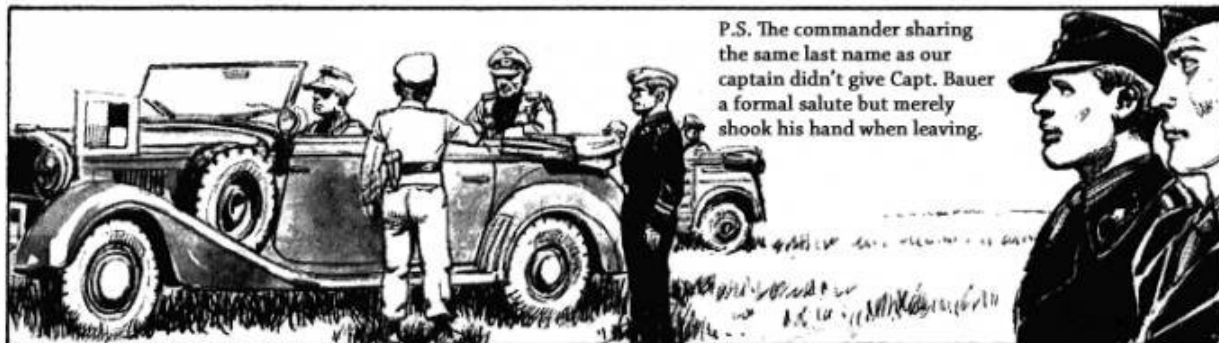
If you just gave me the word, I could give you a desk job in the reserves or make you a panzer-instructor away from the front-lines.



I've already let over half my company members die, father. I can't allow myself to live the easy life.



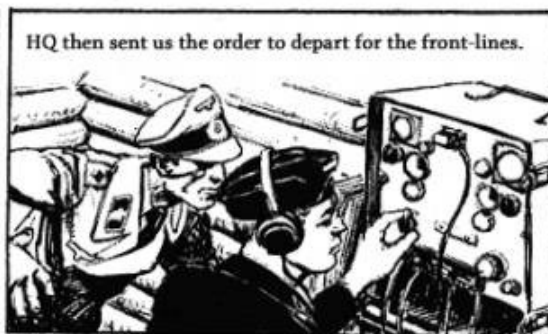
P.S. The commander sharing the same last name as our captain didn't give Capt. Bauer a formal salute but merely shook his hand when leaving.



Afterwards, we received a generous supply of ammunition like never before, perhaps due in part to us now working directly for HQ.



HQ then sent us the order to depart for the front-lines.



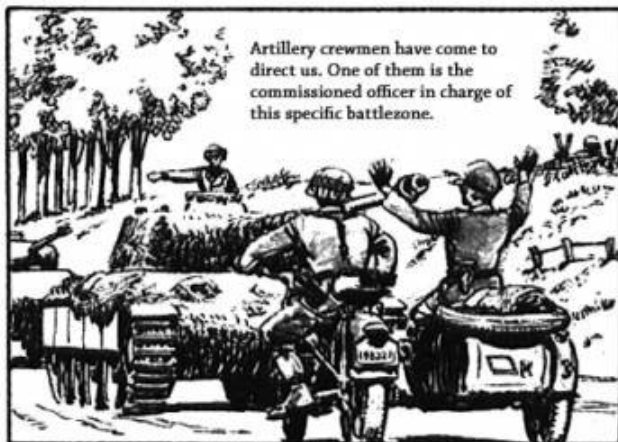
Capt. Bauer's arm cut throught the air twice.
"Onwards, Black Knights!"



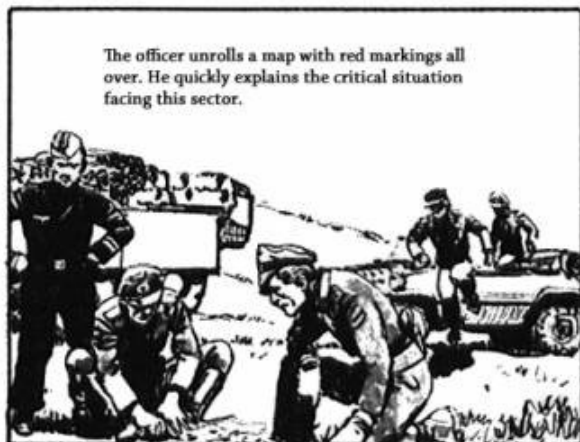
Episode 10 Trial by Fire and Iron



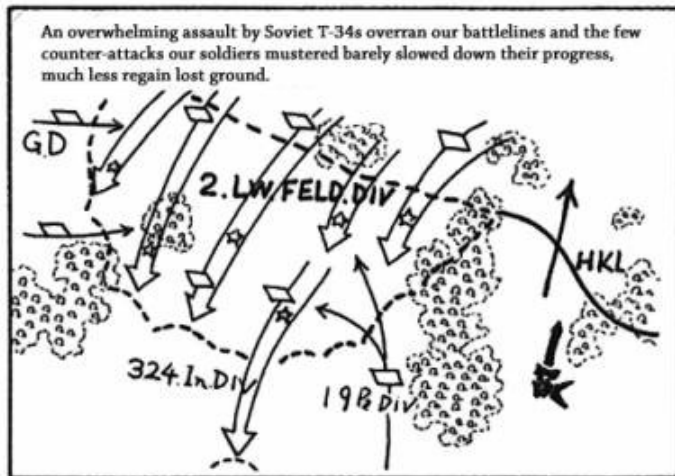
The symphony of war grows louder as we approach the front-lines. Its contrabass, the field artillery shelling. Its drums, the Nebelwerfer and Stalin's organs. 88m rounds whizz across the sky though the screams of soldiers are yet unheard. 100m left to go!



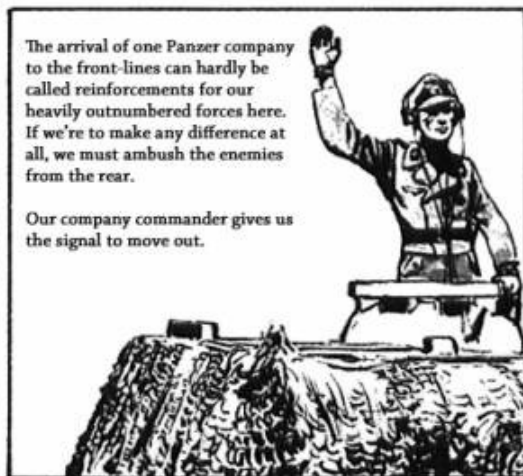
Artillery crewmen have come to direct us. One of them is the commissioned officer in charge of this specific battlezone.



The officer unrolls a map with red markings all over. He quickly explains the critical situation facing this sector.



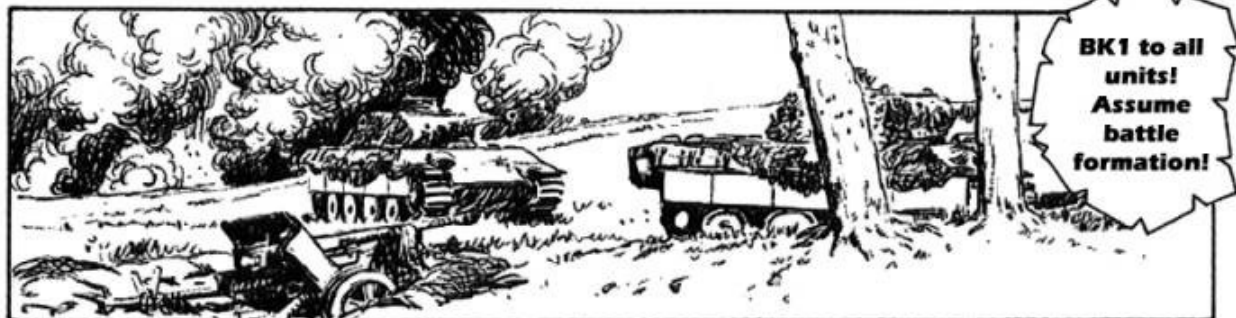
An overwhelming assault by Soviet T-34s overran our battlelines and the few counter-attacks our soldiers mustered barely slowed down their progress, much less regain lost ground.



The arrival of one Panzer company to the front-lines can hardly be called reinforcements for our heavily outnumbered forces here. If we're to make any difference at all, we must ambush the enemies from the rear.

Our company commander gives us the signal to move out.





**BK1 to all
units!
Assume
battle
formation!**



**BK2 to BK1!
Your rear is
unsupported!**



**Damn those
useless,
yellow-
bellied
slowpokes!**



**Scheiße!
Enemy PaK
at 12 o'clock!
Pull back!**

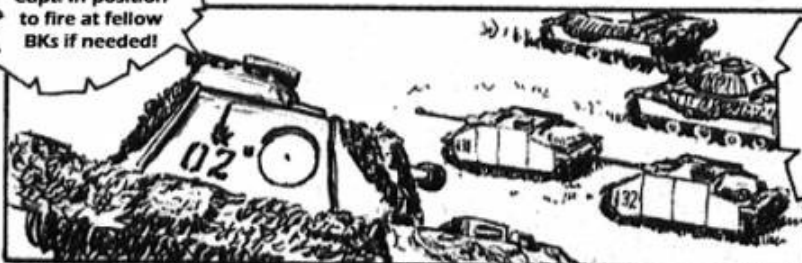


**No, you
idiot! Don't
do a U-turn!
Do you want
them to hit
your rear!?**

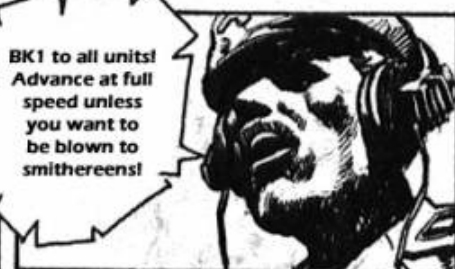




Roger that, Capt. In position to fire at fellow BKs if needed!

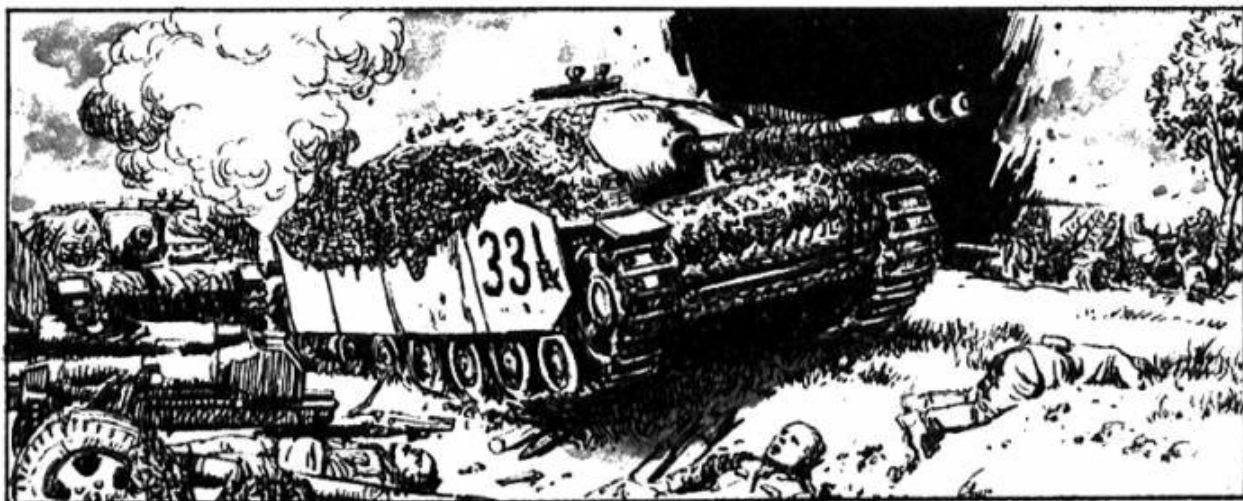


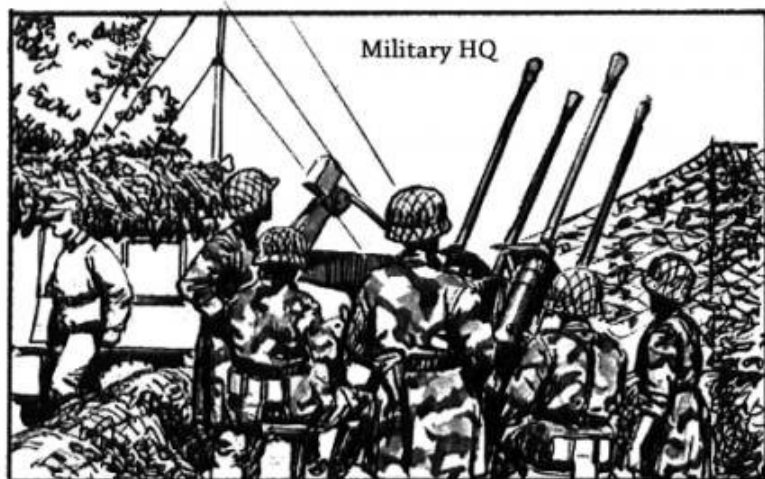
BK1 to all units! Advance at full speed unless you want to be blown to smithereens!



Good, keep advancing! Any coward who turns tail will be shot down by your Sgt. Major!







Military HQ

Black Knights report that they've successfully broken through the Soviet pakfront with no losses and are now headed to hit the main body's rear.



Russischer Kampfflugzeug



JUST WHAT IS HE PLANNING...!?



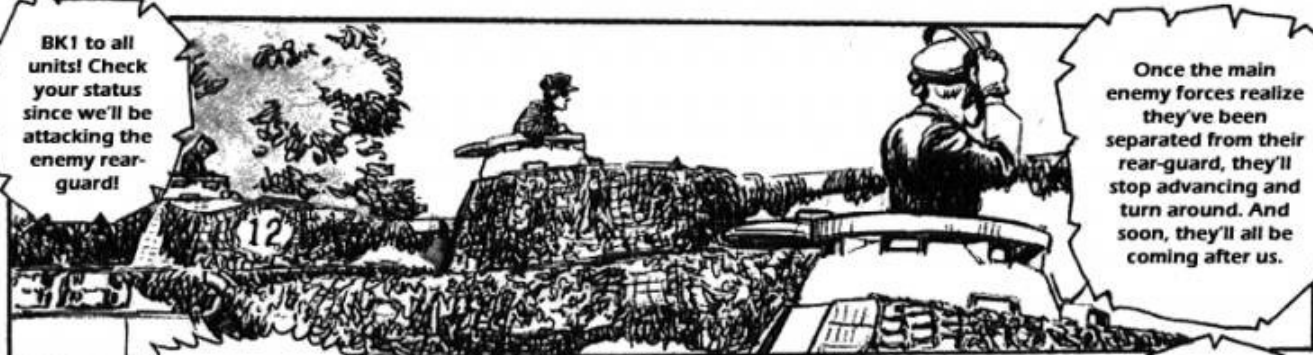
Kurz, you see that?



Is that the enemy's rear-guard?



Yes, and it's also our next target.



BK1 to all units! Check your status since we'll be attacking the enemy rear-guard!

Once the main enemy forces realize they've been separated from their rear-guard, they'll stop advancing and turn around. And soon, they'll all be coming after us.



Noo! I... I'm sick! Get me outta here!



Shut your damn mouth! We're all sick here! Sick of this war! But as long as you're our loader, you aren't going anywhere!



This is #32!
Battle
preparations
complete!



Gelbe
Platoon is
ready for
action!



Rot and Blau
Platoons are
also ready!

Hey Capt.!
Know any
good mobile
field kitchens
around
here?



BK1 to all
units! Once
this mission's
over, I'll treat
all of you men
to a feast!



Just in case, the cover for the emergency
fire switch was opened.



Rot and Blau will
support Gelbe's
initial charge!
Now let's have
some fun!



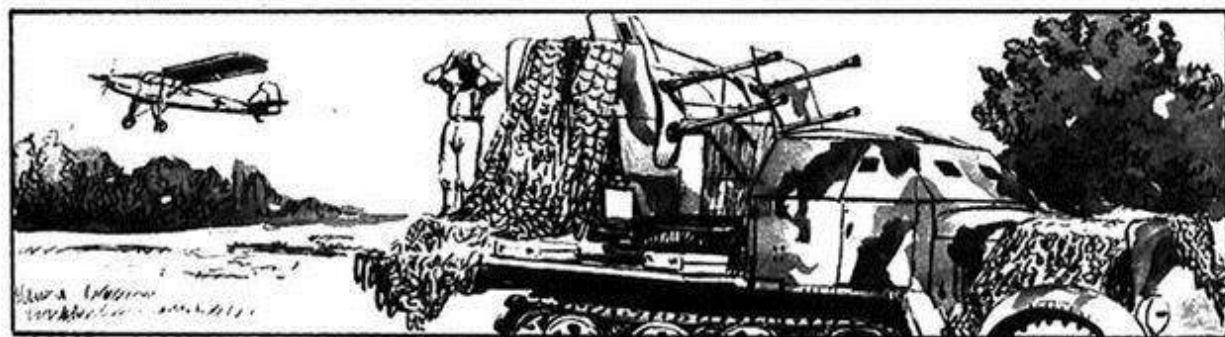
The gunner readied his aim through
the periscope.



And the driver focused on the sight ahead.

Episode 11

Deadly Pakfront Bombardment

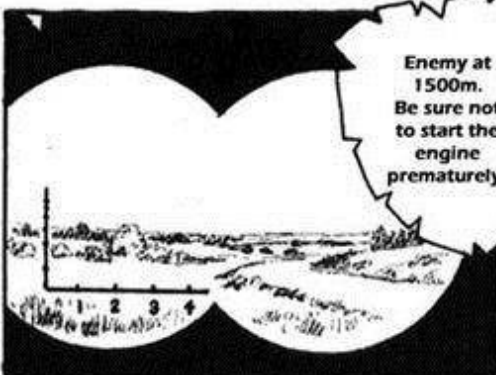
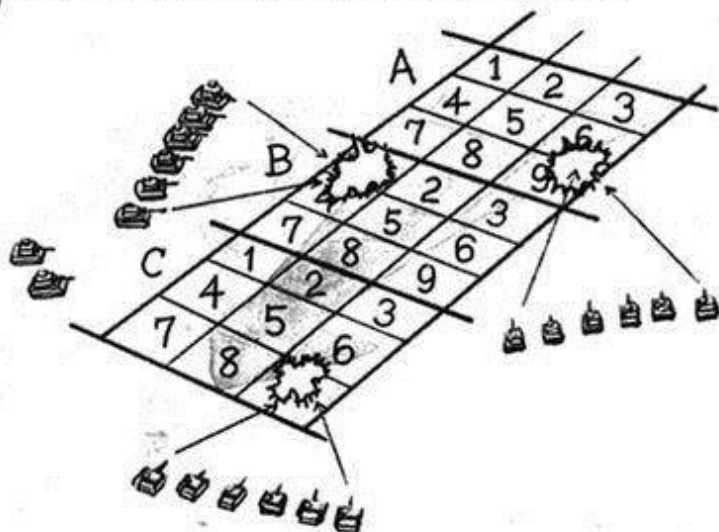


Meanwhile, the Black Knights had camouflaged itself with its surroundings.

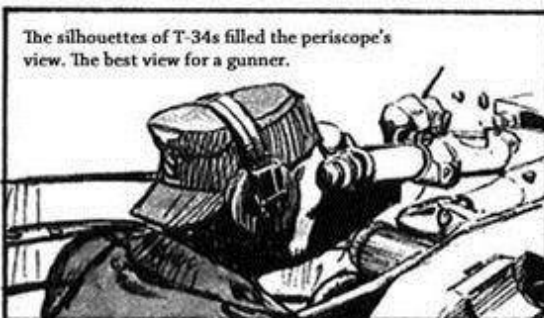


Here they come!
Open fire once their vanguard enters zone-C. Platoon leaders will make the call for actions from then-on.

The Black Knights were lying in wait to spring an ambush. For inexperienced tank crews, this was the safest and most effective method of engaging the enemies. The company was divided up into platoons, who would each be assigned a fire-zone. When any enemy tanks entered that zone, all guns would concentrate fire to eliminate them almost instantly. This system of zoning and concentrated-fire was known as the PaKfront, one of the most effective tactics for panzer divisions in the war.



Enemy at 1500m.
Be sure not to start the engine prematurely!



The silhouettes of T-34s filled the periscope's view. The best view for a gunner.



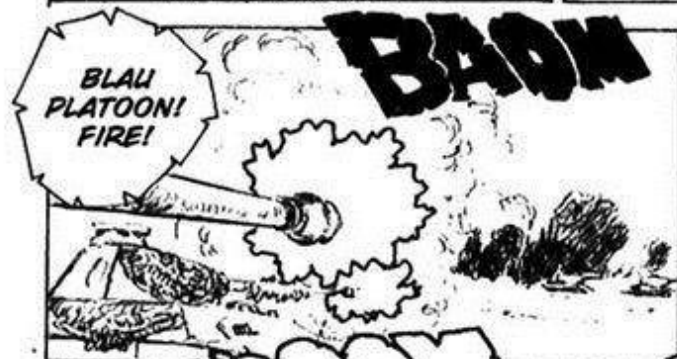
1200m...



900m...
Wait for it...



FIRE!



Rot platoon,
change aim to
sector A-3,
distance to 600m!

GEBOBOBOBOBOBO



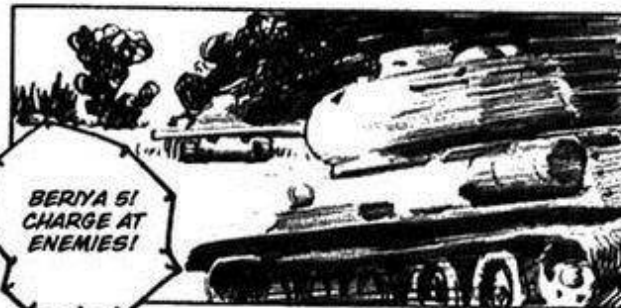
DOKOKOKOKO BOOM

Blau to Gelb!
Some injured
Ivans heading
your way!



BERYA SI
CHARGE AT
ENEMIES!

Quickly! The
enemies are
charging
this way!



We're all
gonna die!

Get a grip
on yourself,
soldier!

AGHHH!

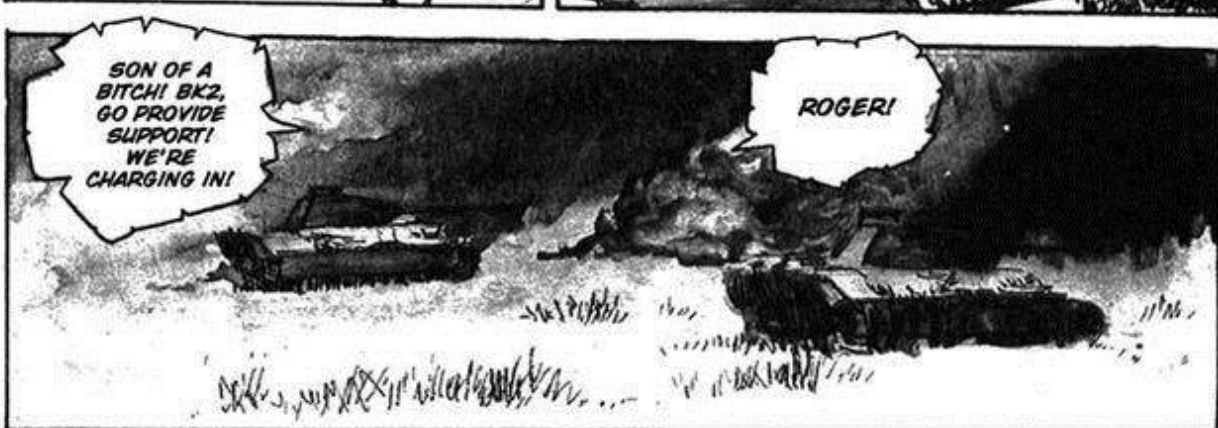


BAKODON

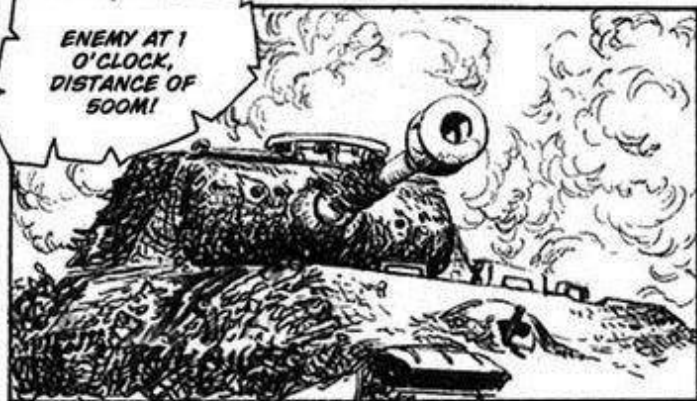




WE'RE
DONE
FOR! RUN
FOR IT!



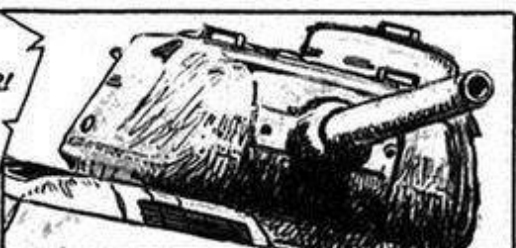
ENEMY AT 1
O'CLOCK,
DISTANCE OF
500M!



TAKE
CARE
OF'EM,
KURZI!



ROGER!



BAKOOOON!

NICE
SHOT!



DOOM

BAM



BANG



2 O'CLOCK!
QUICKLY,
KURZI!





BK1 to all platoons! Give casualty reports, then collect your wounded and get out from there!



Blau 3 on fire after taking a hit. Rot 2 incapable of further action.

MORE ENEMIES COMING! 1500M AWAY!



BK1 TO ALL PLATOONS! RETREAT SOUTH, BK1 WILL PROVIDE COVERING FIRE!



BK2 WILL ALSO PROVIDE COVERING FIRE!



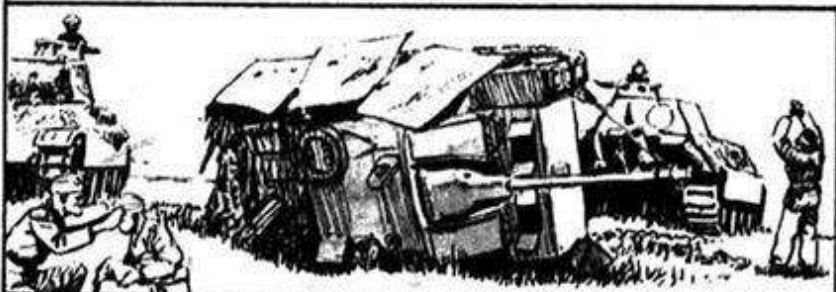
Very well, Sgt. Major. This may be our final moments. Let us do our duty.



Lohengrin to
Black Knights!
Do you
respond!? This
is Lohengrin!



Sorry to leave
the knights of
the round table
hanging for so
long. Let us
handle things
here.



Corporal,
what is Gelb
platoon's
casualty
report?



Only a few
lightly
wounded,
sir!



Good work,
soldier!



Episode 12 Nightmare



KV-85
AT 3
O'CLOCK!

SAY HELLO
TO YOUR
MAKER!

T-THE
TRIGGER
PEDAL
IS...!?



The Soviets resumed their great offensive that day. The situation on the Ostfront was growing worse for us by the hour. By sunset, the remnants of the 3rd German Field Division, numbering 13,000 soldiers, had been completely enveloped by Soviet forces.



The Soviets are attempting to continue their string of successes as achieved at Stalingrad and Cherkasy. Our HQ is mustering all the forces it can to stop the enemy advance.



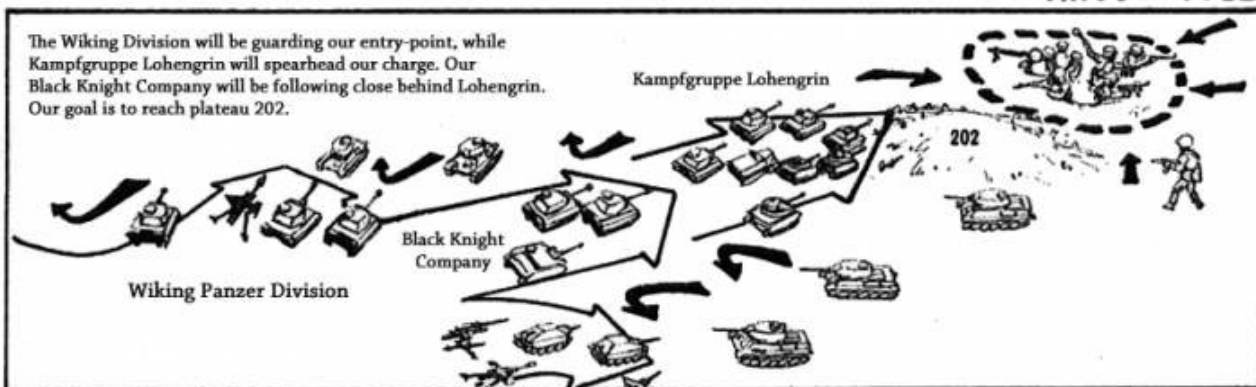
At the same time, HQ also organized a force to save the enveloped 3rd division, of which the Wiking Division and the Black Knights Company would constitute its main elements.



The rescue operation began at 0400. The enemy is waiting for us. We will be charging head-first into their prepared traps.



The Wiking Division will be guarding our entry-point, while Kampfgruppe Lohengrin will spearhead our charge. Our Black Knight Company will be following close behind Lohengrin. Our goal is to reach plateau 202.



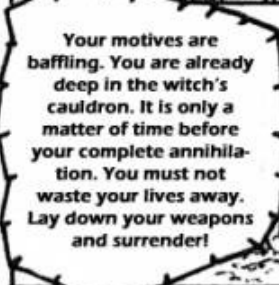
THIS IS
INSANE,
LOHENGGRIN
WILL GET
WIPE
OUT...



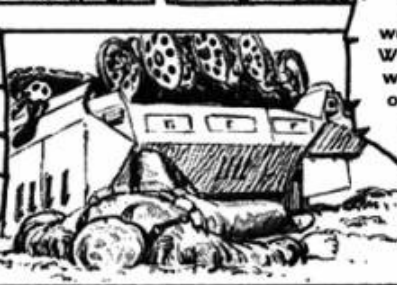
To our comrades, the
New Black Knight
Company, we
sincerely congratulate
your company's
revival and return to
the battlefield.



However, we ask
to Capt. Bauer and
all the knights
who follow him,
why do you fight?
Do you fight for
the army that
treated you so
coldly?



Your motives are
baffling. You are already
deep in the witch's
cauldron. It is only a
matter of time before
your complete annihila-
tion. You must not
waste your lives away.
Lay down your weapons
and surrender!



To my dear Black Knights,
we speak to you as a comrade.
We wish nothing more than to
welcome you from the depths
of our hearts. Lay down your
weapons and surrender!



I'm gettin' sick of
listening to this.
Change the
channel to
Band-D2.



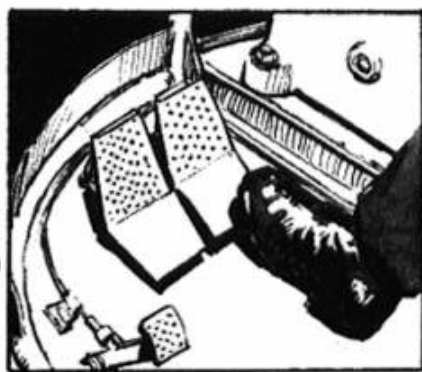
Lohengrin to
Black Knights!
Take the hill
to your f-
GAHHH!

LOHENGRIN?
ARE YOU THERE?
BLACK KNIGHTS,
ADVANCE AT
FULL SPEED!



DON'T MIND
WHAT'S ON YOUR
LEFT OR RIGHT!
JUST CHARGE
STRAIGHT
AHEAD!







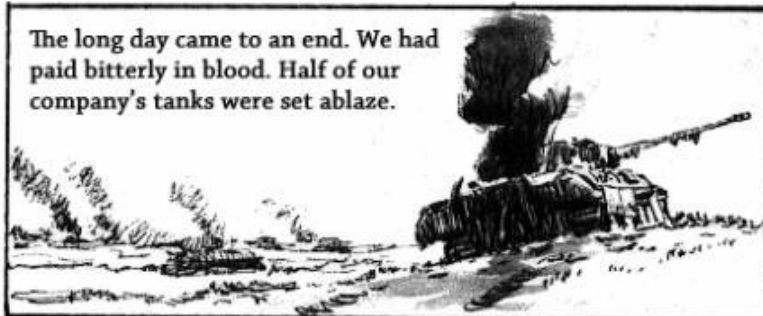




HIT THE
EMERGENCY
SWITCH!



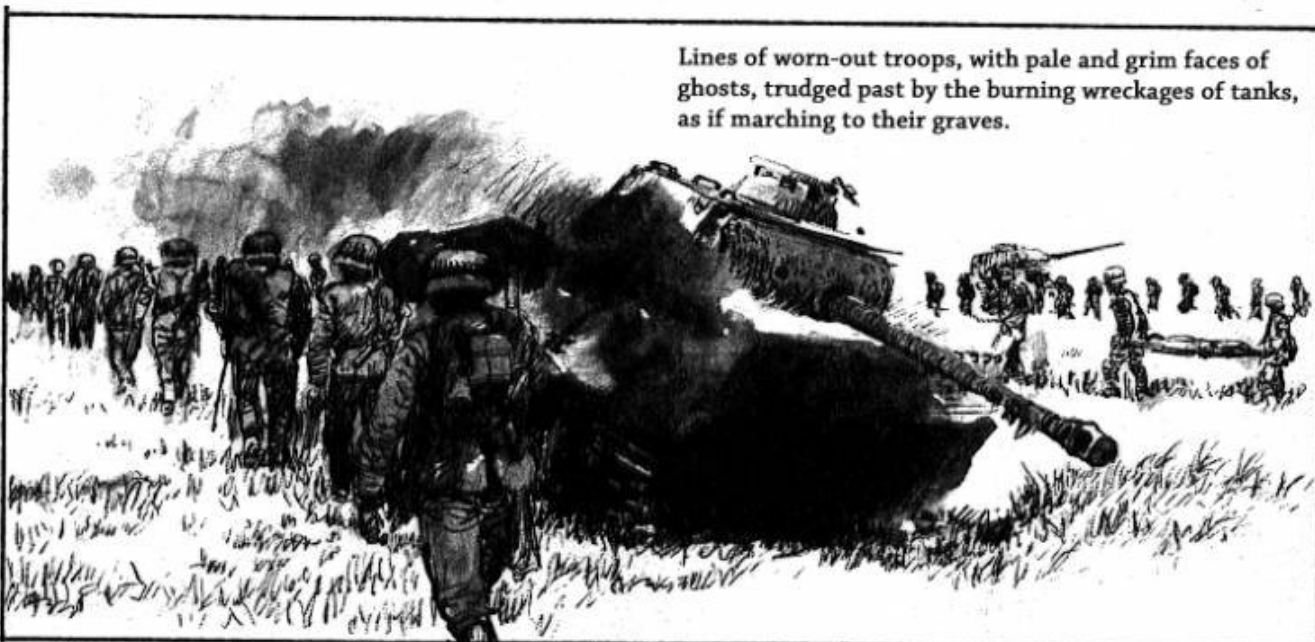
The long day came to an end. We had paid bitterly in blood. Half of our company's tanks were set ablaze.



Waiting over the hill were the surviving 13,000 soldiers of the 3rd division.

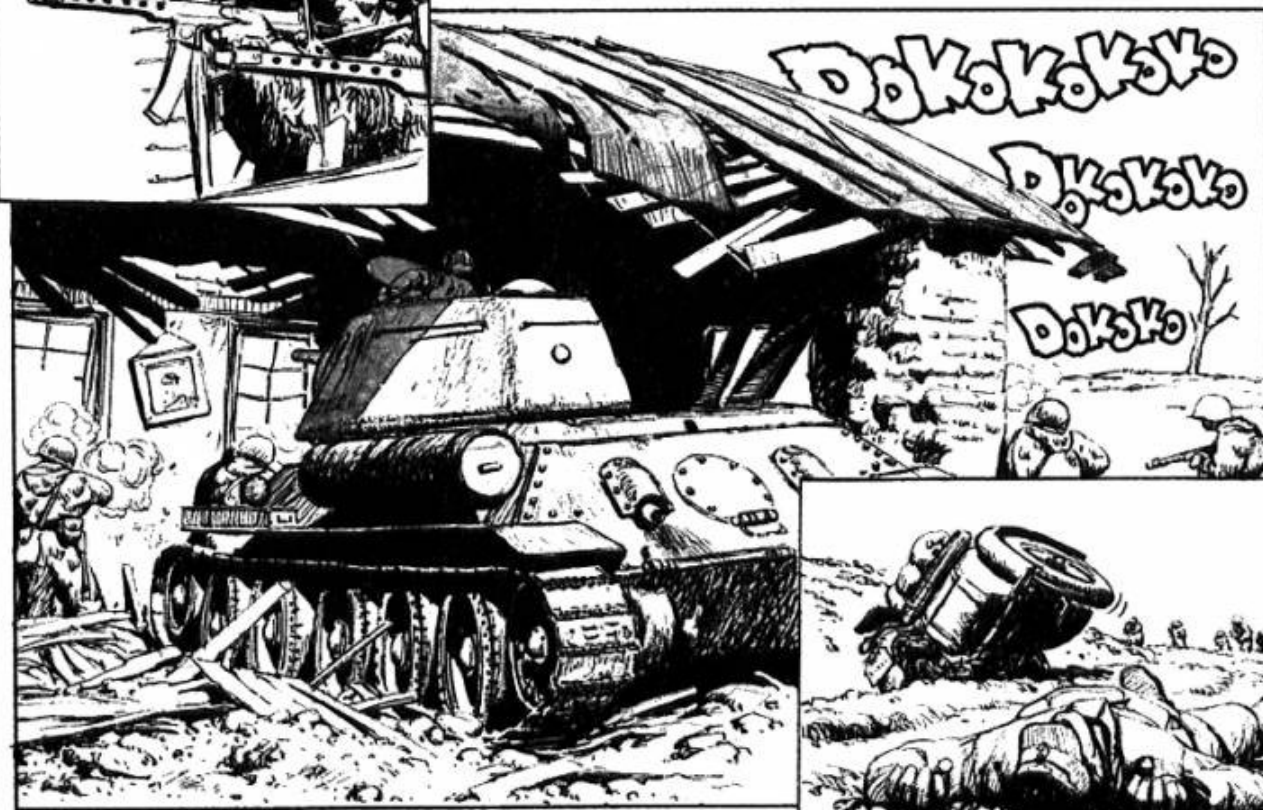
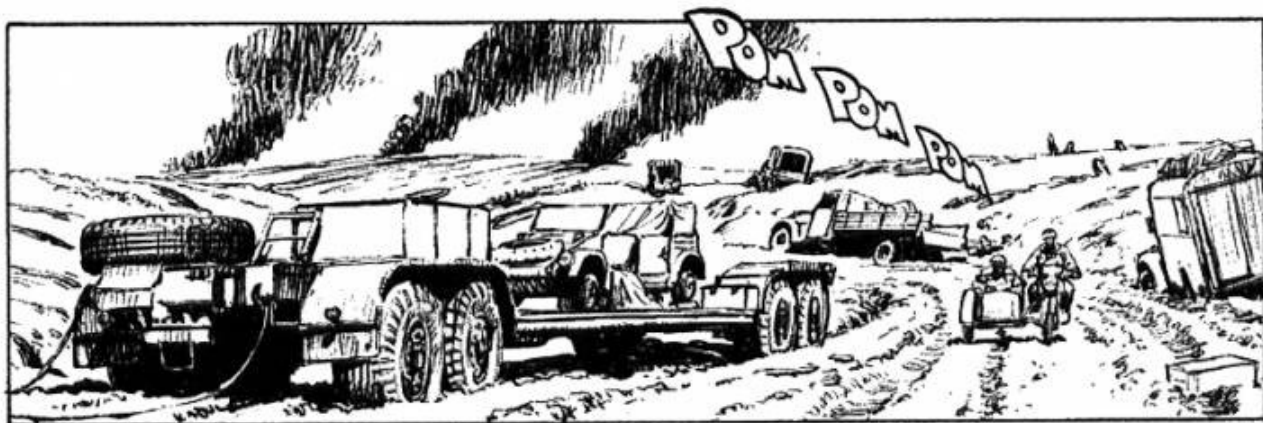


Lines of worn-out troops, with pale and grim faces of ghosts, trudged past by the burning wreckages of tanks, as if marching to their graves.



Episode 13

Black Knight's Black Wednesday

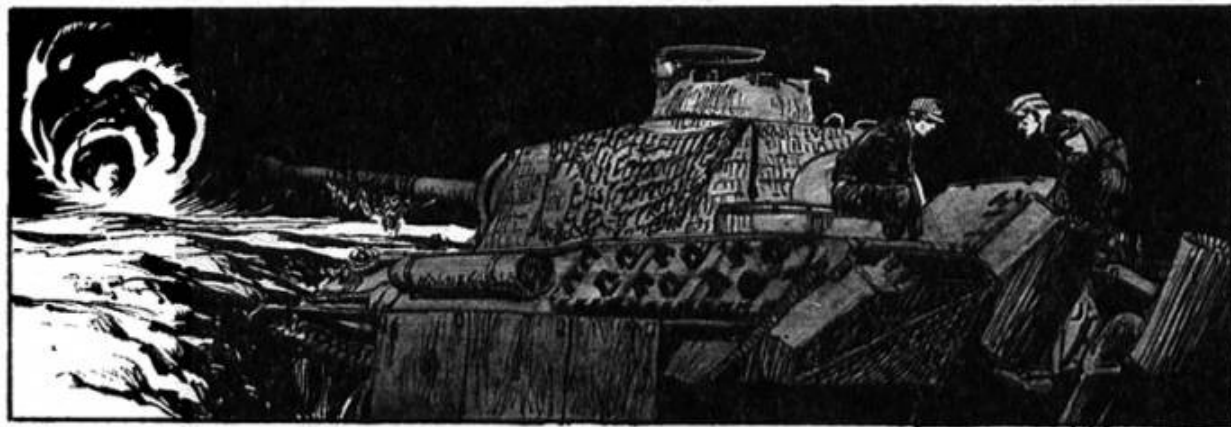


It's been one full day since our company commander went missing after going out for reconnaissance. We've sent search parties twice after that, but we could not find any leads as to his whereabouts amidst the chaos of our collapsing lines.



Our defensive lines shrunk smaller and smaller as the day progressed. Wounded men, supply troops, and still-healthy armoured and infantry divisions crossed the river and retreated throughout the entire day. The only ones remaining behind in this doomed position are the remnants of destroyed companies, who've long lost any hope of survival. Among the forlorn are the Black Knights as well.





Do you hear that? Damn Ivans are singing...



Why wouldn't they be? I sang too when we were advancing on Moscow. ...This engine's dead for good.



Halt! Do you have the permit to cross?



ENEMY ATTACK!



HECKEL TO JECKLE!
ENEMY TANKS
AT SECTORS
G, H, AND M!



FIRE!



BK2 to BK1!
Did you see
that, Kurz!?
PaK fire didn't
do jack shit!



Roger! Will
try firing
again at
1200m!



Enemy
tanks!



Don't run or
you'll be shot!



Direct hit!
They're
retreating!



Squad 1,
advance!



RTATATATA



Incoming
enemies!
Fall back!



BAOM



BOOM

Christ!
They're
stepping
over their
own
comrades!



BAOM



BAKOOM





This is BK1!
Respond immediately
if anyone's
there!
This is BK1!



Fuck this,
let's get
outta here!



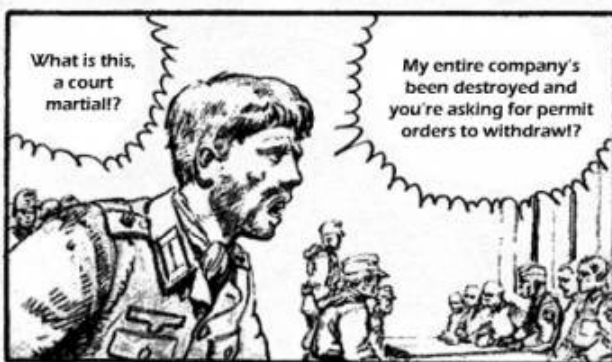
Quickly!
The last barge
is about to
leave!



SCHNELL!

H...
HELP!







Episode 14 Towards the Night



How much longer, Kurz? The Ivans are gonna beat us to Berlin at this rate.



Won't be much longer, sir.



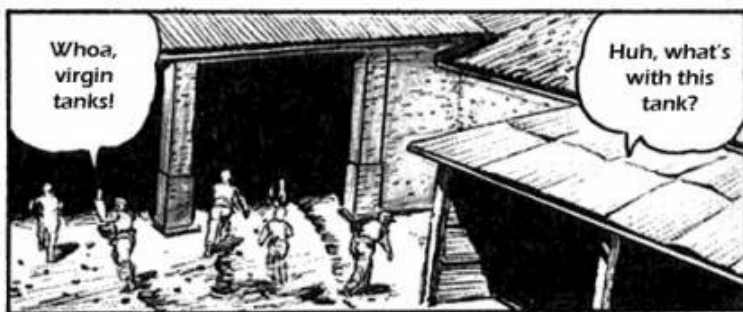
Ich bin ein Feigling!

I am a coward!



I'll send you to Valhalla.







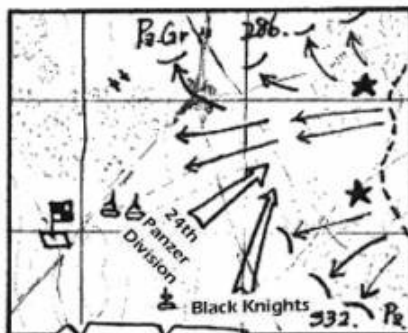
At 0400 hours, we destroyed the panzer supply outpost and moved out with our newly equipped tanks.

We had managed to secure 10 Panzer Ausf. G tanks, 6 Hetzer tank-destroyers, and several trucks. Including the additional supplies we had managed to scrap together, our company was fully prepared for battle.



Black Knights to Trojan Horse...

Orders arrived from HQ. We were to combine with the 24th armored division and launch a counter-offensive.



We used the march over there to get ourself familiarized with our new tanks.



Christ, it's so damn cramped in here!

A single direct hit will turn this into a blazing coffin!

Shut your whining! Better tanks don't win battles, better soldiers do!





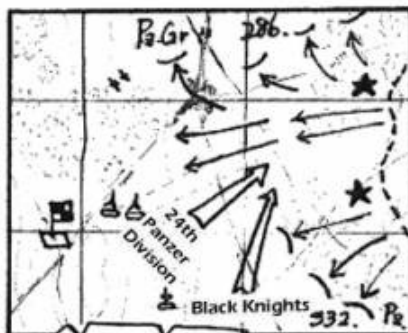
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Halt! Kurz, advance first!



Yes, sir!



Turn left when I give you the signal.



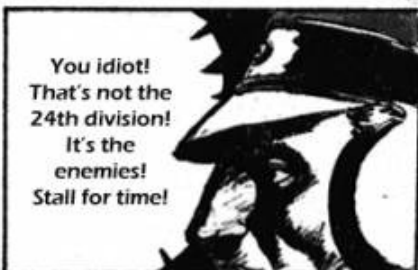
NOW, KURZ!



TURN LEFT!









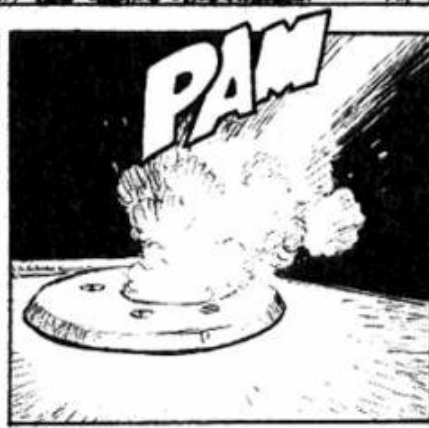
Enemy targets will be between 2 and 4 o'clock!



BTH-DOOOOM



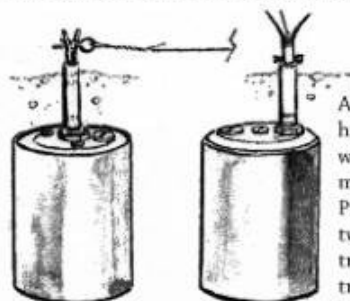
FIRE THE S-MINE!





S-Mine

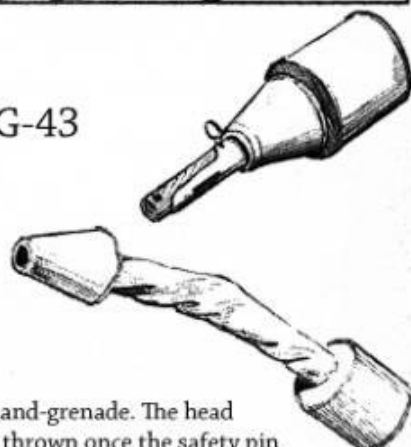
Anti-personnel landmine which, when triggered, will fly up into the air and spray 350 steel balls.



A simple, but highly effective weapon carrying many shrapnel. Pictured left are two models, one triggered by a tripwire, the other by a 3-pronged



RPG-43



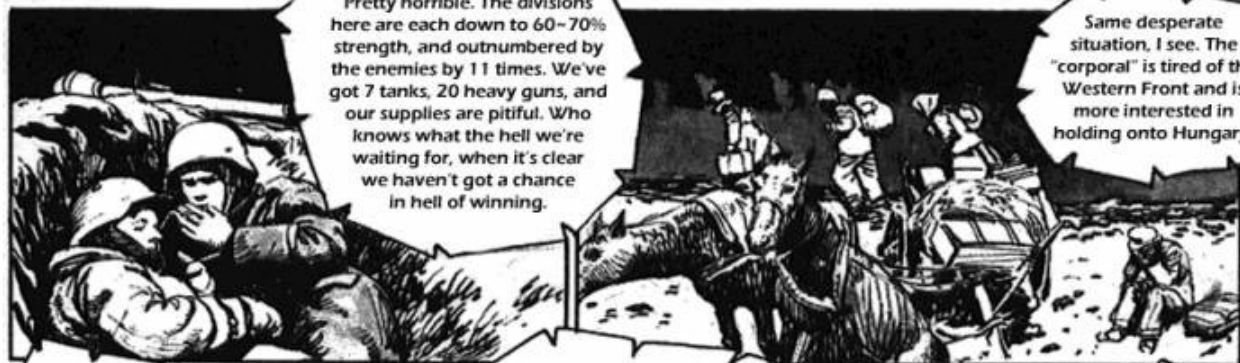
Soviet anti-tank HEAT hand-grenade. The head slides off the lever when thrown once the safety pin

Emil, how's the situation on your end?



Pretty horrible. The divisions here are each down to 60-70% strength, and outnumbered by the enemies by 11 times. We've got 7 tanks, 20 heavy guns, and our supplies are pitiful. Who knows what the hell we're waiting for, when it's clear we haven't got a chance in hell of winning.

Same desperate situation, I see. The "corporal" is tired of the Western Front and is more interested in holding onto Hungary.



What is he, insane!?

He's planning right now on relocating two elite panzer armies over to Hungary. No one can change the Führer's mind. I tried myself, but he's set on this idea... By the way, how's Ernst doing? I keep hearing rumours about him and his Black Knights, but I haven't heard of him being awarded with the iron cross yet.

He keeps saying he doesn't need any medal. I can't say I disagree, since I don't want him to have any more reasons to cling to his precious panzers.



That's a defeatist attitude to take. Well, if the Chief of the General Staff were to order him to accept it, I'm sure he won't refuse.

As you wish, Guderian. Now how about lending me your OKH position for next month? Haha...





Captain Ernst von Bauer

In your time in the Eastern Front, you have overcome all challenges and saved countless companies and divisions. The valour of you and your Black Knights cannot be understated.

On behalf of the entire army and under the authority of the Chief of the General Staff, I present to you the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross, surely a fitting medal for the living embodiment of courage, leadership, and excellence.

Issued by General Emil von Bauer,
Acting under authority of Chief of the General Staff
Heinz Guderian



Look, they're doing some ceremony.

Who cares?



Whoa, it's the Black Knights.

They saved my life in Berezina.

It was in Petrovsk for me.

Me too!



Ernst, I couldn't be prouder to call you my son. This might be a relic of the Great War from my younger years, but here. I want you to have it.





The exploits of we Black Knights was forever carved into military history that day. It was truly the best day in my life. Although only 10 of us were Black Knights from the beginning, everyone around us celebrated all the same.



January 15, 1945. The Soviets begin their winter offensive. The once-secure German Eastern Lines crumble and Poland is completely lost.



Our Army Group North was renamed Army Group Courland after being isolated in there, while Army Group Center was renamed Army Group North to take its place. Regardless of the name change, the result was same. From North in East Prussia to South on Breslau, the Soviet offensive swept our weakened and outnumbered troops away like a tsunami.



Kurz, we've somehow managed to beat back the first wave but the next one will be impossible.

Edelweiss to Black Knights, respond at once.



Black
Knights
responding!

You are to withdraw and
assist the Volkssturm
who are forming up a
second battle line
behind the HKL.

You're
involving
untrained
mobs of
militia!?
My Black
Knights will
stay here.

*Haupt Kampf Line: Main Battle Line

They're not mobs,
they're our patri-
otic defense bat-
talion. In any case,
they're far better
off with a gun in
hand than being
unarmed. I repeat,
you are to
withdraw from
your position!

Damn that son of a
bitch! We've done
nothing but retreat
since yesterday! I swear
to god I'll have him
push this tank if it
breaks down or
runs out of fuel!

BK1 to Gelb
Platoon,
follow after
me! The rest
stay here
on alert.

And these
here are the
brave warriors
of the
Hitlerjugend.

How old
are you?

I'm the
oldest here
at 16, sir!

SPAK

BAKO!









Aim low at
the base of
their turrets!

Rot Platoon, you've got
enemies to your rear!
Shit, I can't see through
all this smoke!





11 O'CLOCK
AT 150M!



DON'T STOP
MOVING, OR
YOU'LL BE KILLED
BY ENEMIES TO
YOUR REAR!





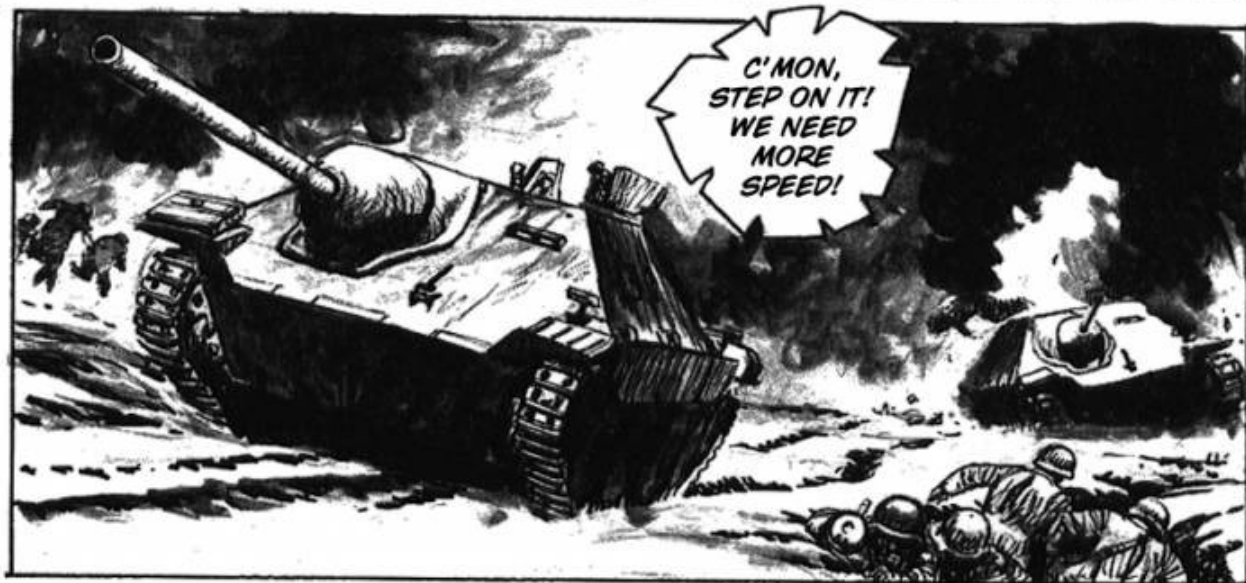


BK1 IS HIT!
EVACUATE
NOW!

BA
KOOOM



C'MON,
STEP ON IT!
WE NEED
MORE
SPEED!









Quickly!
We've got
no ammunition left!



How's our
company's
condition?



I don't know,
Cpt. I've lost
contact with
Schultz.

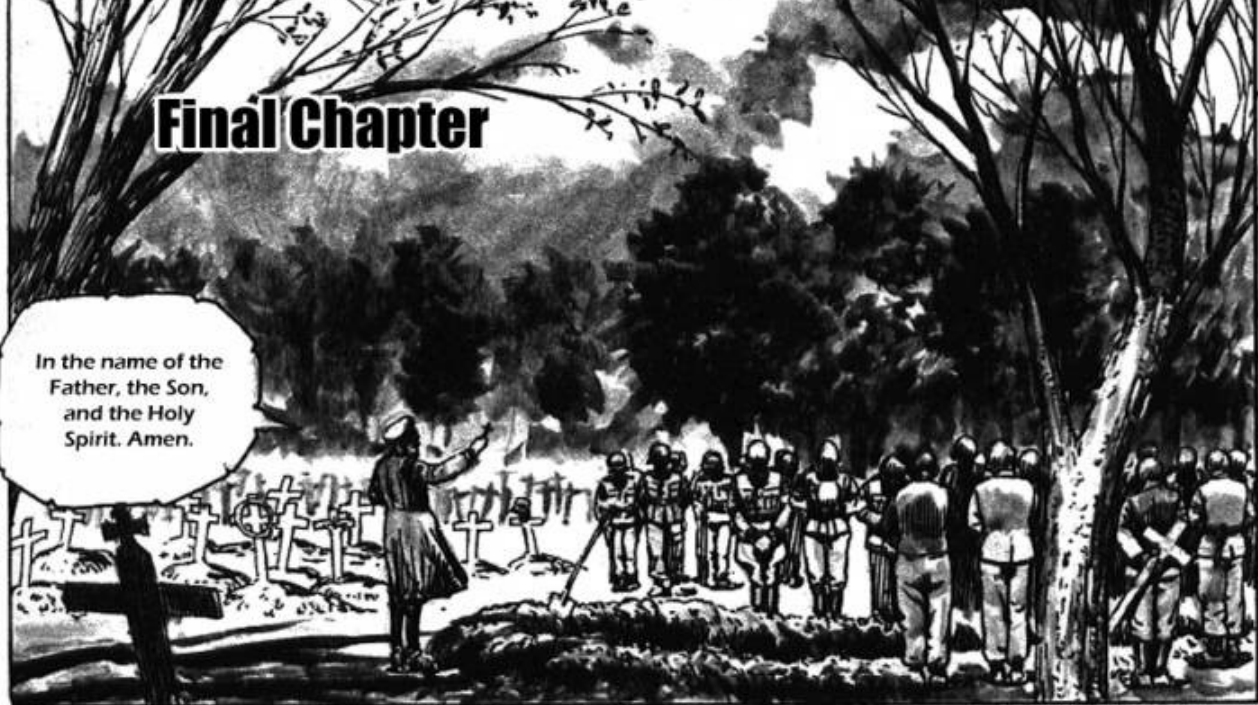


C... Capt...
K... Kill me...



Final Chapter

In the name of the
Father, the Son,
and the Holy
Spirit. Amen.



Forgive us
for our sins.





Ha, a dud!
Ain't we
lucky!?

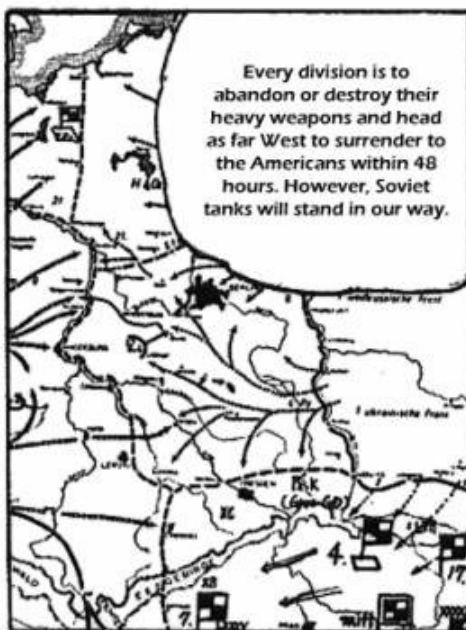


*CURSE YOU
ALL TO HELL!*



Gentlemen, this war
is lost. Send the
message out to every
division at once.

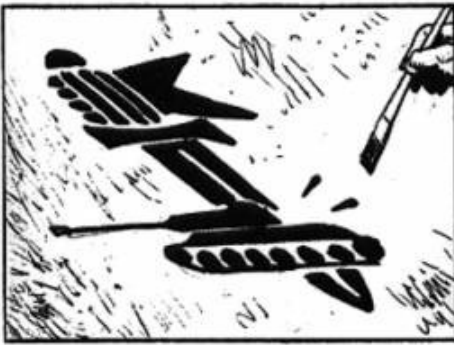
Berlin's been captured
and Führer Hitler is dead.
The replacement Führer
Dönitz has agreed to an
unconditional surrender
to the Allied Forces.



Every division is to
abandon or destroy their
heavy weapons and head
as far West to surrender to
the Americans within 48
hours. However, Soviet
tanks will stand in our way.

Thus, I regretfully ask
those of you in the rear
guard to do your duties
for the sake of your
people and comrades.





Where'd you get all these tanks, Kurz? Did you steal them?

Capt. Bauer's here! Line up, company!



Nice haul, right, Capt? The SS supply and repair company were happy to trade it off to us for some spare clothes.



We are all here as willing volunteers.

Ready to move upon your command, Cpt.



This is my final mission to you, Ernst.



Yes, father. I still have one working tank to hold the Soviets off. Please give my best regards to mother and Enge.





Kurz, can you see the truck at 2 o'clock?



Ah, I see the mark! Our troops must have all passed here as well.



Right, and it'll be the Ivans next...



Don't think of this war as over just yet, men.

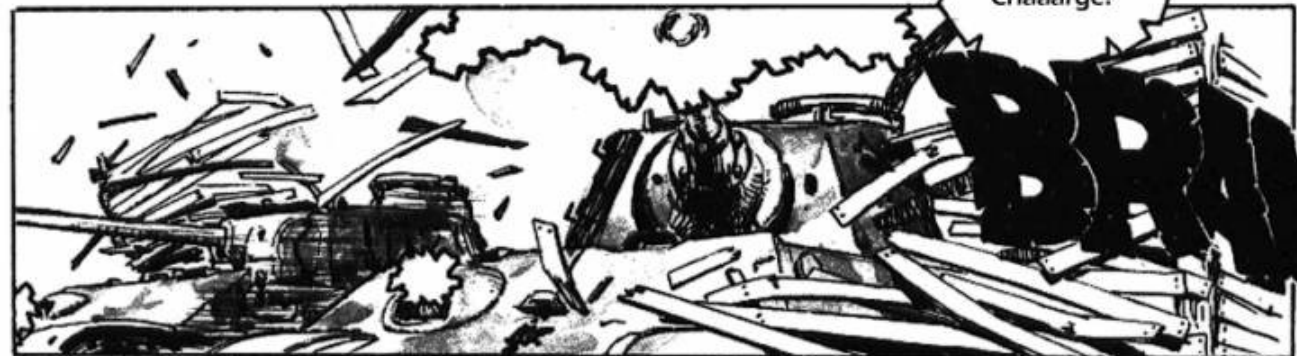


Let us show them the spirit of Germany's finest panzer company! We'll flank them as they cross here.



May God be with us...

Black Knight Company! Chaaarge!





BAOON



DON'T FALL
BEHIND,
BK2!



I'LL FOLLOW
YOU TO HELL
ITSELF, CAPT!
T-34 AT ONE
O'CLOCK!
FIRE!

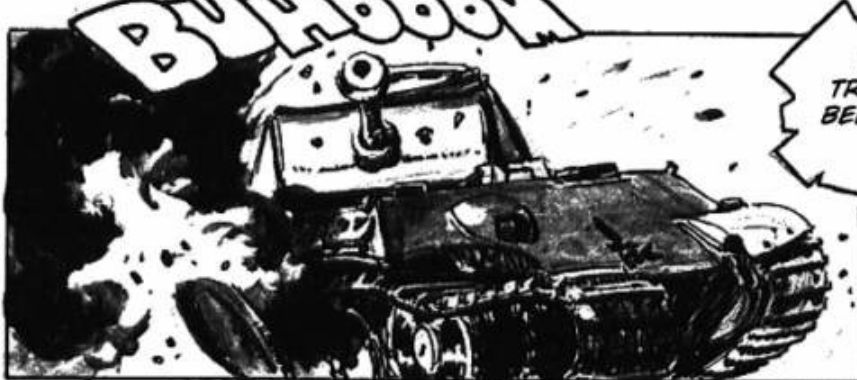


BAKON

DIRECT HIT!
STALIN AT
2 O'CLOCK!



DIRECT
HIT!



OUR
TRACK'S
BEEN HIT!



PAY NO
HEED! AS
LONG AS WE
CAN STILL
SHOOT, WE
CAN STILL
FIGHT!



BK1 TO BK2!
I'LL COVER
YOU SO YOU
MEN GET OUT
OF HERE!



CAPTAIN!



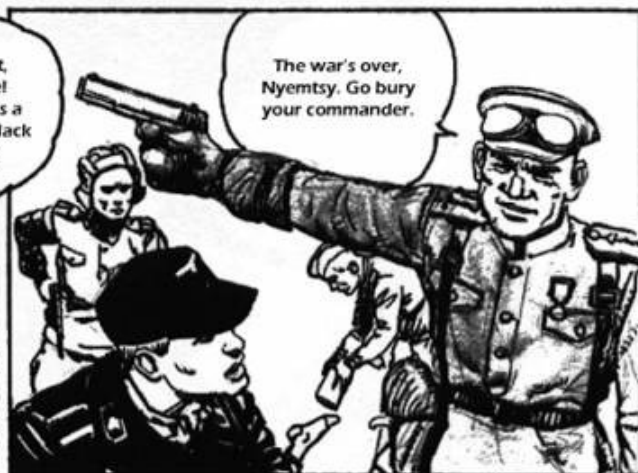
CAPT.
BAUER,
PLEASE
RESPOND!



You brave knights
have already gone
above and beyond
your duties, but the
Third Reich is not
worth dying for.



Survive for the
sake of a new
Germany!
Sieg Heil!





World War 3 in Japan

Soviet Invasion of Japan!

ソ連軍日本上陸!



The wheels were in motion before anyone realized it...

In Mar. 1979, Israel and Egypt signed a peace-treaty in Washington D.C. and outraged Arab oil-producers, led by Saudi Arabia, placed an oil embargo on U.S. and her allies. In response, the U.S. sent its 7th fleet to the Persian Gulf to forcibly secure oil fields. The U.S. 5th air force stationed in Japan also assisted with this operation, further spreading an ominous air throughout Asia. Meanwhile, tensions sparked again along the Sino-Vietnam borders, and the Soviets, who were pro-Vietnam and anti-China, decided to enlarge the war by invading China via the borders in Mongolia and Siberia. However, despite the growing world crisis, the Japanese public was far more concerned at facing its second oil shock since 1973. On Oct. 2 of 198X, the Chinese government requested Japan for naval assistance as part of the Peace and Friendship Treaty between China and Japan. And on Oct. 3, the Soviet government deemed the Japanese response to be hostile and thus forced Japanese diplomats to withdraw back to Japan.

Oct. 4, 0540



Patrol flight 025 reporting to control tower, can you hear me? We are currently being pursued by 5 unidentified aircrafts that have trespassed our airspace. I repeat, we are currently being pursued by 5 unidentified aircrafts.



They're travelling at a speed of mach 2 and an altitude of 80,000 ft. They will reach this plane in just 7min and 40sec. Requesting immediate reinforcements and emergency protocols.





Hey there.
Any news
today?



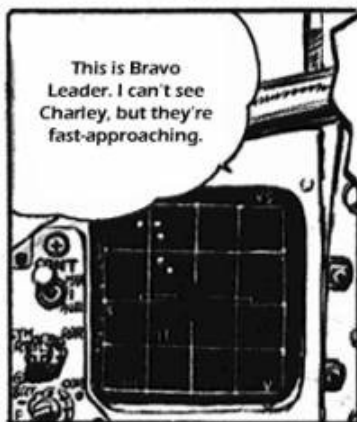
Specifically
on why the
Vladivostok
report was
suddenly
cut off?

Seems the
American
reconnaissance
satellite had a
malfunction.



**HOT
SCRAMBLE!**

**Vector seven-zero. Angel eight-zero, gate, contact charley zero-two-five, on channel, roger.
(Direction 70 degrees, altitude 80,000ft., use afterburner, Message using E2C025 and frequency Y)**



This is Bravo
Leader. I can't see
Charley, but they're
fast-approaching.



You are flying
in Japanese
airspace. Withdraw
immediately!



The two F-15s called up as backup disappeared from the radar screen. Judging that the F-15s had been shot down, the control tower marked a black circle on the control panel, but the information was not able to be sent for the 28 radar sites stationed across Japan were soon wiped out. They had already been targeted by various planes or cruise missiles from ships and submarines. Japan was now blind.

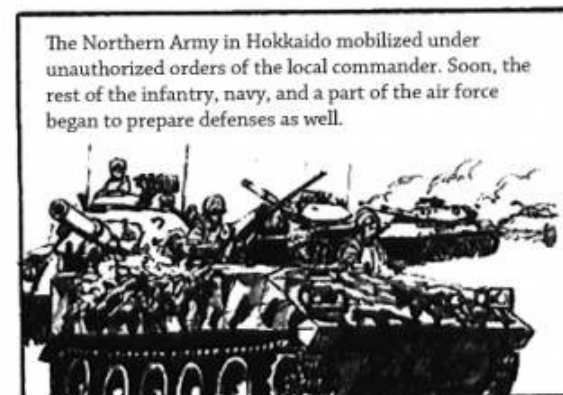
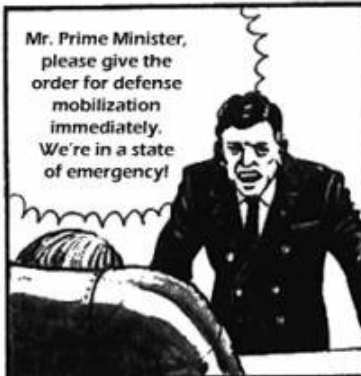
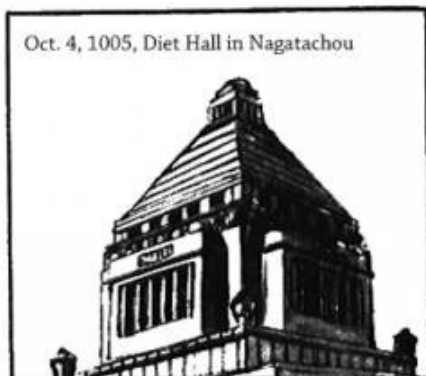
Oct. 4, early morning, the blinded Japan began to take heavy damage, not only restricted to its BADGE system.



From the northern Chitose Air Base in Hokkaido, to all the way down south to the Nyutabaru Air Base in Kyushu, all major air bases were targeted with swift missile strikes from Backfires and Floggers.



ソ連軍日本上陸!



By midnight of Oct. 4, the Soviet Pacific Fleet had left the port at Vladivostok and now headed straight for the coast of Niigata. Included among the fleet was the Soviet aircraft carrier Kiev.

Oct. 5, 0130. JDS Makishio submarine, patrolling the area as a training mission detected the Soviet fleet's screws. By 0200, the coast had been alerted and Japanese citizens were immediately evacuated farther inland.



Oct. 5, 0600, Naoetsu



Everything's going as planned. We've just about taken control of the coast.



Our reconnaissance units are already 3km inland, sir.

Within a single hour, Soviet forces stormed the coast of Naoetsu. The Eastern Army's 12th division at Somagahara were unable to fortify the beach by morning.



The two infantry regiments stationed in Niigata could hope to give no better resistance.



Oct. 5, 0830. Highway 18, in the vicinity of Arai

Soviet armoured reconnaissance forces sighted!



The 12th division fended off the Soviets with crossfire at Highway 18 and awaited Fuji school's armoured division and Narashino's 1st Airborne Brigade to reinforce them.





ソ連軍日本上陸!

Counter-attack from the enemies? Hmph, we'll advance all the way to Nagano by tomorrow.



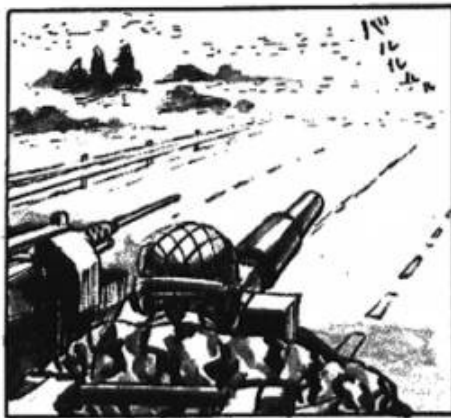
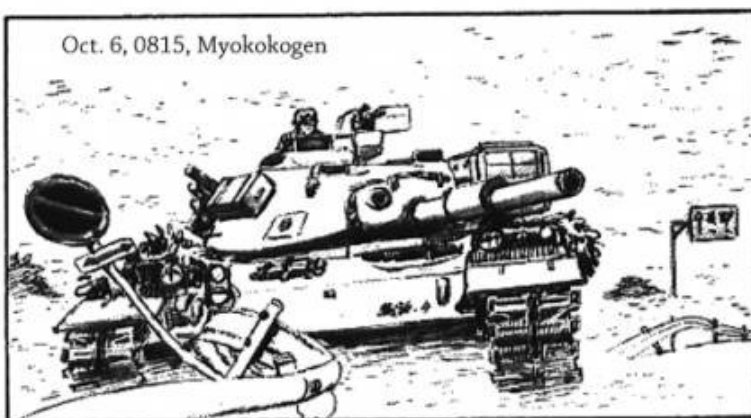
Come on, men. Let's get a move on!



By noon of that day, the defensive lines set up by the 12th division had all been penetrated and the Soviets had stopped 40km inland from the coast to resupply and prepare to push again tomorrow.

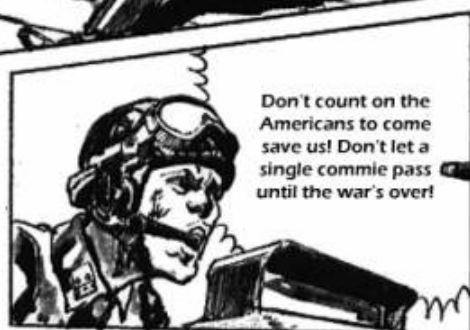
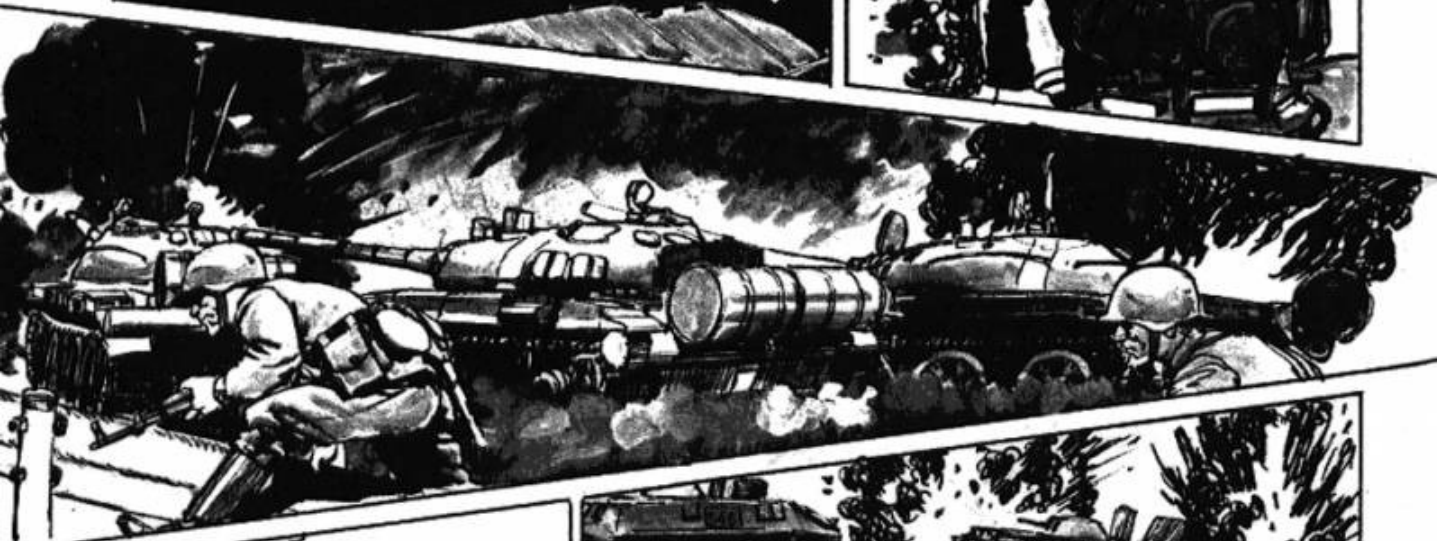


Oct. 6, 0815, Myokokogen



If the enemies break through here, then it's only 240km until Tokyo.





ソ連軍日本上陸!



Advance all the way
to Tokyo! Don't
forget that your
fathers never
stopped until they
reached Berlin!

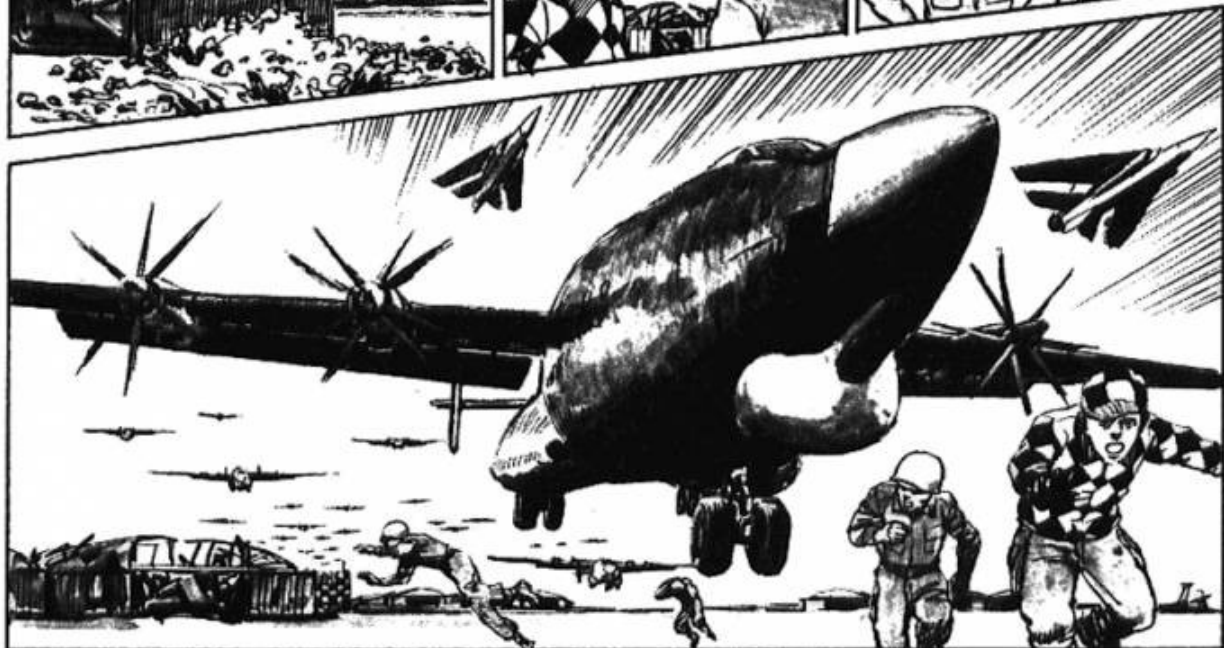


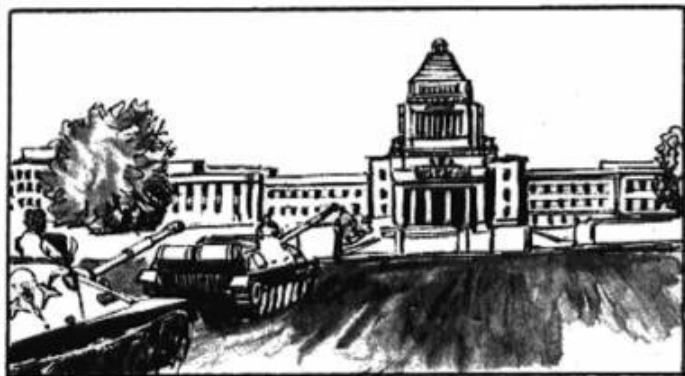
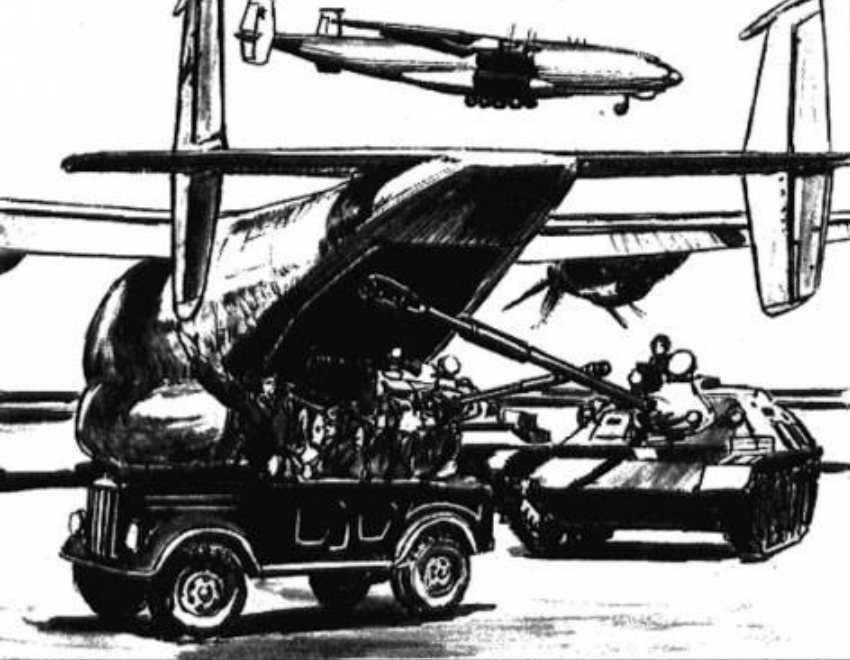
Oct. 7, 0930, Ibaraki Air Base



Finally, the
Americans
are here.

What's with
the roar of
their
engines?





ティーゲルIIのバリエーション

●ボルシェ試作、初期型（ボルシェ180型砲塔）

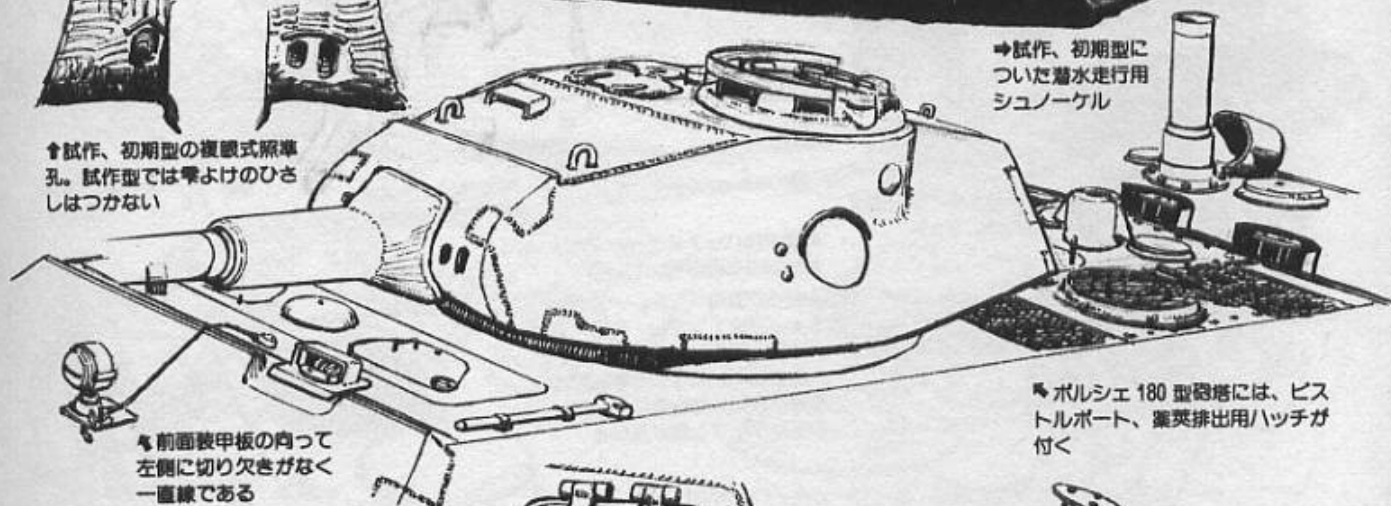
1942年8月、ヒトラーの指示により、MAN社のバンテルをモデルとした71口径88mm砲装備の重戦車計画が、ボルシェとヘンシェル両社に出された。1943年2月、陸軍兵器局の審査により、ボルシェタイプは車輛整備の一貫性の為、生産済の50基の砲塔のみが採用され、ヘンシェルの車体に搭載された。



↑ボルシェ砲塔装備の試作第一号車の前部フェンダー



↑試作、初期型の複眼式照準孔。試作型では撃ちよけのひさはつかない

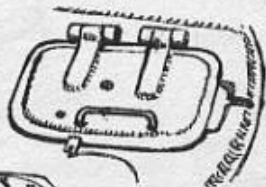


⇒試作、初期型についた潜水走行用シュノーケル

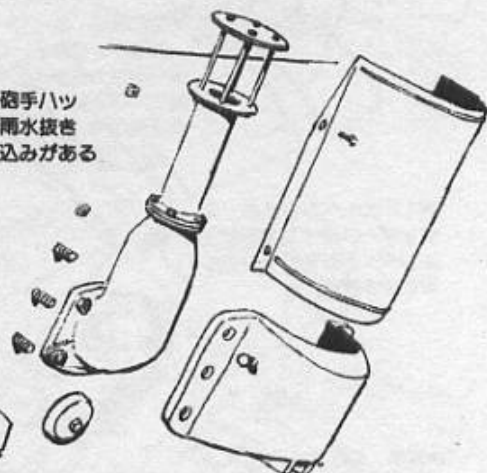
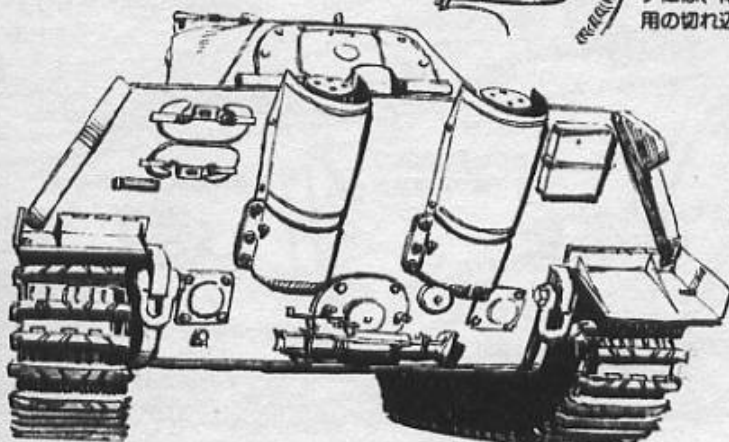
※前面装甲板の肉つて左側に切り欠きがなく一直線である

※ボルシェ180型砲塔には、ピストルポート、薬莢排出用ハッチが付く

↓試作、初期型の後部

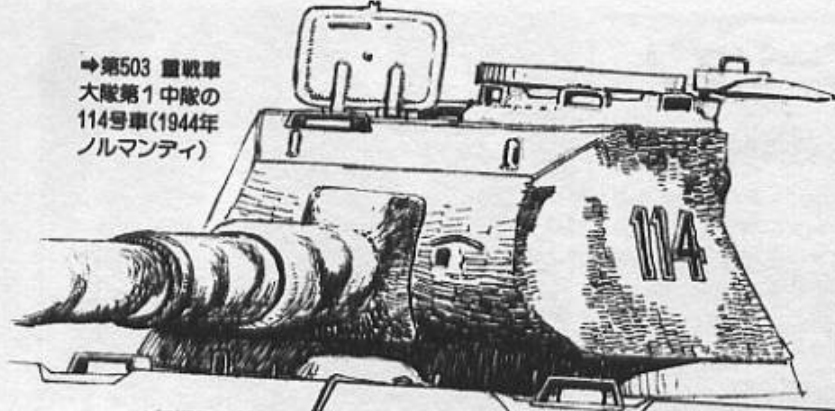


←試作型砲手ハッチには、雨水抜き用の切れ込みがある



↑試作、初期型ヘンシェル車体のエキゾーストパイプとその装甲板

→第503 重戦車
大隊第1中隊の
114号車(1944年
ノルマンディ)



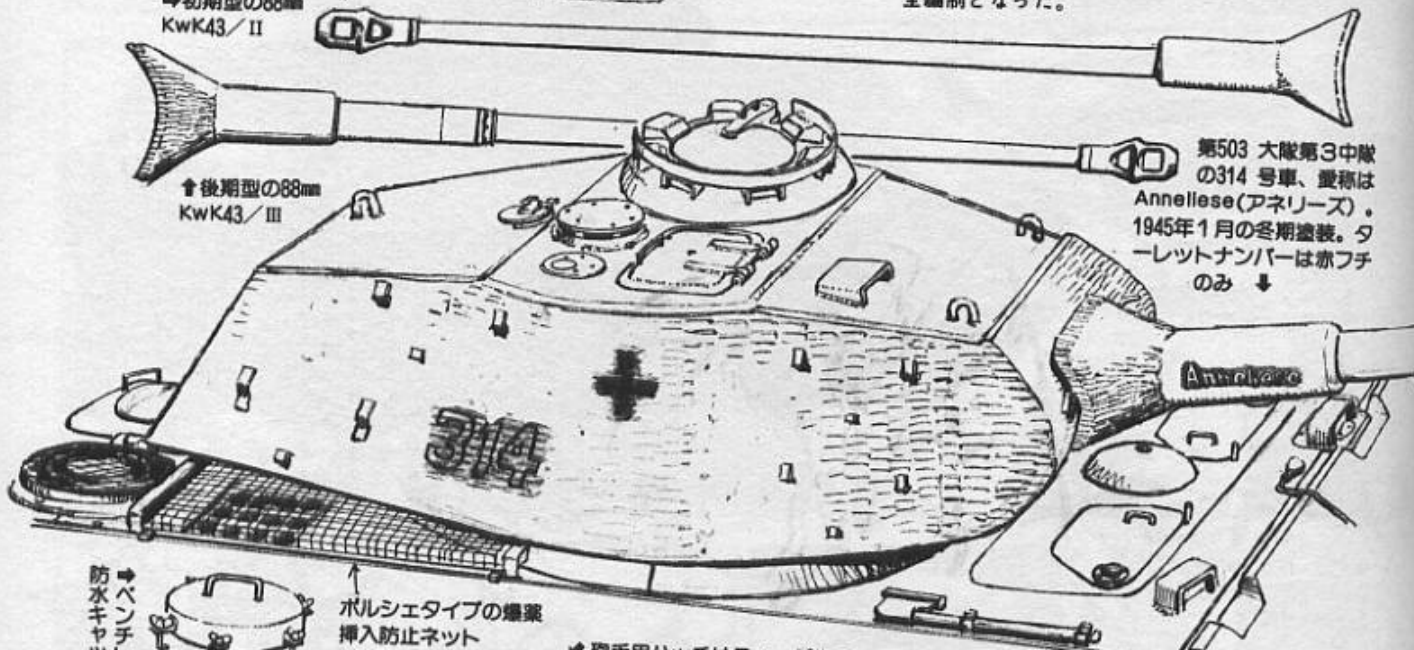
→初期型の88mm
KwK43/II

→後期型の88mm
KwK43/III

●ポルシェ砲塔後期型

後期型砲塔の特徴は、単眼式照準器TFZ9d採用の為に照準孔は一つになり、砲塔基部防御リングが付き、前部機銃手ペリスコープ用として前面装甲板に切り込みがついている。ポルシェ型砲塔装備車50台は、第500 装甲補充・訓練大隊、第130 装甲教導連隊第3中隊、第503 重戦車大隊第1中隊に各1個中隊ずつ配備された。第503 大隊第2,第3中隊はティーゲルI後期型で編制され、ノルマンディ戦後1944年9月、ケーニヒス・ティーゲルII型45台の完全編制となった。

第503 大隊第3中隊
の314号車、愛称は
Anneliese(アネリーゼ)。
1945年1月の冬期塗装。タ
ーレットナンバーは赤フチ
のみ ↓



→ベンチレーター
防水キャップ

ポルシェタイプの爆薬
挿入防止ネット

→砲手用ハッチはティーゲルI
前期型のものが付いている
→前部機銃用ベンチレーター・
キャップはエンジン・エア・フ
ィルター・キャップと同型で、
丸みが強い。ポツシュ管制灯の
電源引き出し部金具は後のヘン
シエルタイプと形が異なる

ポルシェ〜ヘンシエル・ス
タンドタイプの前部フ
ェンダーと牽引シャックル
取り付け基部 →

→試作、初期
型の牽引シャ
ックル取り付
け基部

スコープ

パール

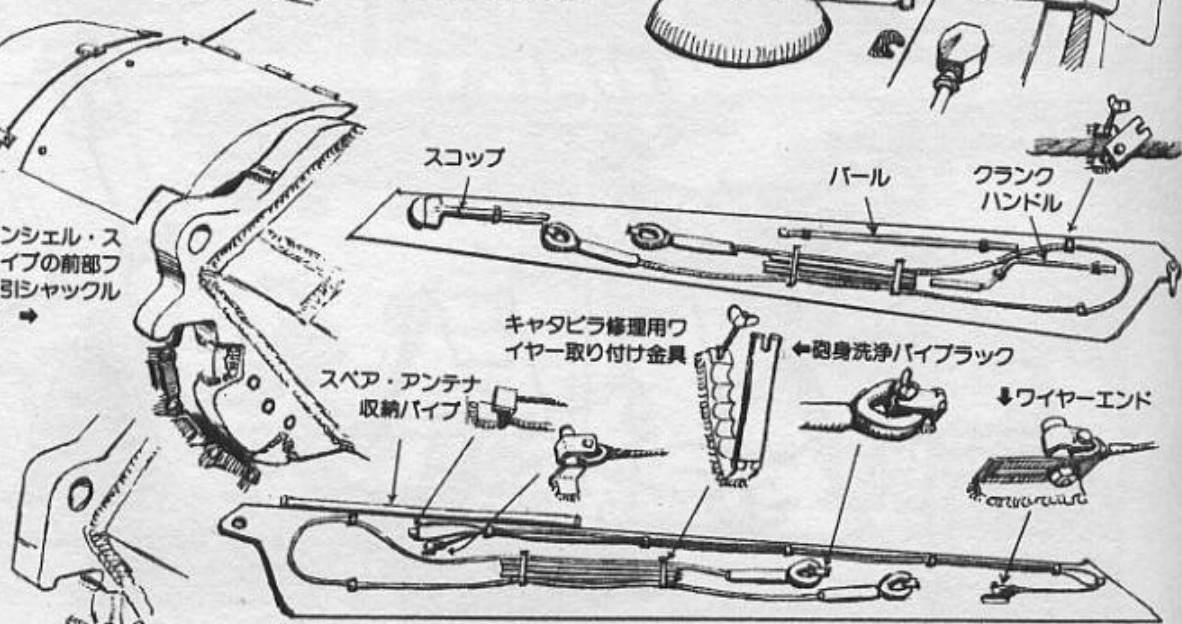
クランク
ハンドル

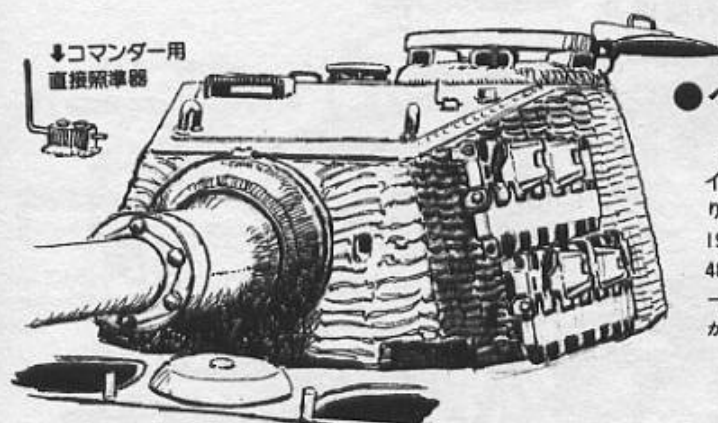
キャタピラ修理用ワ
イヤー取り付け金具

スベア・アンテナ
収納パイプ

→砲身洗浄パイプラック

↓ワイヤーエンド



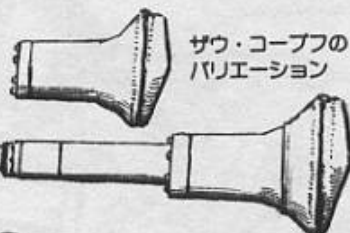


↓コマンダー用
直接照準器

●ヘンシェル型ケーニヒスティーゲル

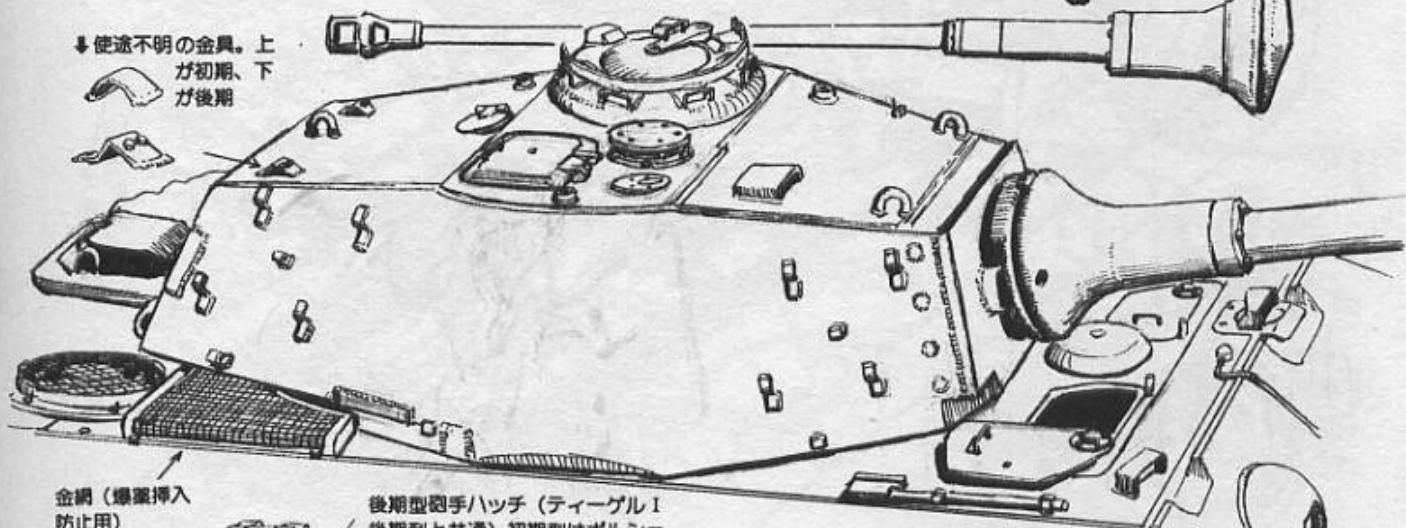
量産に適しているとして、陸軍兵器局により生産ラインに乗せられたのがヘンシェル型で、1944年2月より生産が始まり、ポルシェ型砲塔装備車50台を含め、1944年度中に377台、1945年1〜3月までに107台、合計で484台のポルシェ〜ヘンシェル型ティーゲルII型（ケーニヒスティーゲル、又はSdKfz182 ティーゲルBs）が生産された。

↓88mmPAK, Kw PAK, KwK43/III



ザウ・コープフの
パリエーション

↓使途不明の金具。上
が初期、下
が後期



金網（爆薬挿入
防止用）

信号弾発射孔
ハッチ

後期型砲手ハッチ（ティーゲルI
後期型と共通）。初期型はポルシェ
タイプと同じ

初期型ベンチ
レーター

ヤーボ（地上攻撃機）
防弾用装甲板（後期型）
高さ5cmくらいの柱で
支えてある

初期型ベンチレーターは、砲塔防盾と
の干渉をさける為、角を削ってある。
後期型ベンチレーターは高さが低いの
で、削られていない。操縦手用ペリス
コープ・ガードの角も削
られている

⇨シャッフル取り
付け金具

後期型車輪間隔灯

↑スタンダードタイプの
後部フェンダー

↑後方反射器

ヤクト・ティーゲルの内部構造

対空機銃取り付け基部

照準器

ヤクト・ティーゲル戦闘室上面

砲弾ラック

ペリスコープ

コマンダー用ヘッドホーン
タコホーン入れ

128mm薬莖

128mm砲弾

128mm主砲用
トラベリングラック

ベンチ
レーター

コマンドース
シート

●ボルシェ方式の 懸架装置

ボルシェ型懸架装置は、製作工程の簡略化、低コスト化を計ったもので、462,000ライヒスマルクとヘンシェル型の半分で済むが、29台しか製作されなかった。ボルシェ方式では、ヘンシェル方式よりも車高が約10cm高くなった。

●ヘンシェル型シャーシ (トーションバー方式)

バンテル、ティーゲルIと同様の懸架方式だが、製作工程が長く、製作費が一台あたり866,000ライヒスマルクかかる。試作型2台を含め50台製作された。

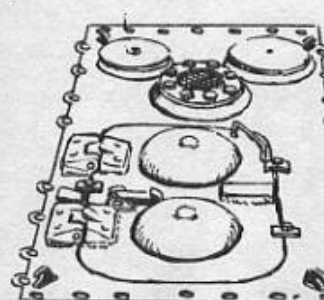
ダンパー

ヘンシェル型ケーニヒス
テール後期型の前部フェ
ンダー

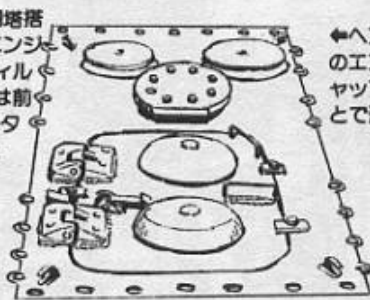
ボルシェ型砲塔後部

ヘンシェル型砲塔後部

キャタピラ調整用パイ
プ取り付け部(らしい)



◆ボルシェ型砲塔搭
載シャーシのエンジ
ンデッキ。フィル
ターキャップは前
部ベンチレータ
ーキャップと
同型



◆ヘンシェル型砲塔搭載シャーシ
のエンジンデッキ。フィルタ
ーキャップは、前のものと後のもの
とで形が異なる

●ボッシュ型 管制灯の外し方

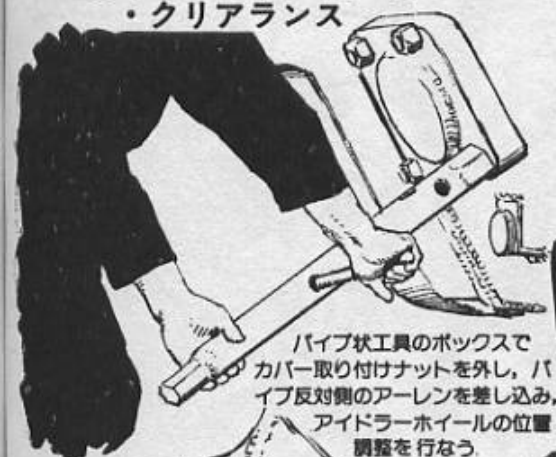


取替による損傷をさ
ける為、スパナで
回してランプを外
し、防水キャップを電
極にかぶせる

↓スパナのリング部では、
フックのナットを外せる

◆厳冬期には、ラジエター冷
却水凍結防止の為、トーチラ
ンプを左排管下部へ取り付け
る

●キャタピラテンション ・クリアランス

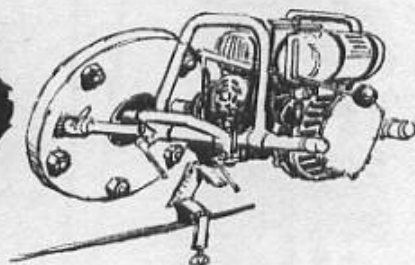


パイプ状工具のボックスで
カバー取り付けナットを外し、パ
イプ反対側のアーレンを差し込み、
アイドルホイールの位置
調整を行なう

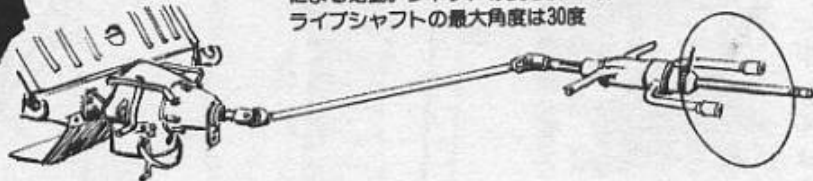
●冬期エンジン始動方法

冬期はバッテリーが上
がる為、手動クランク
により始動する

◆エンジン付始動機

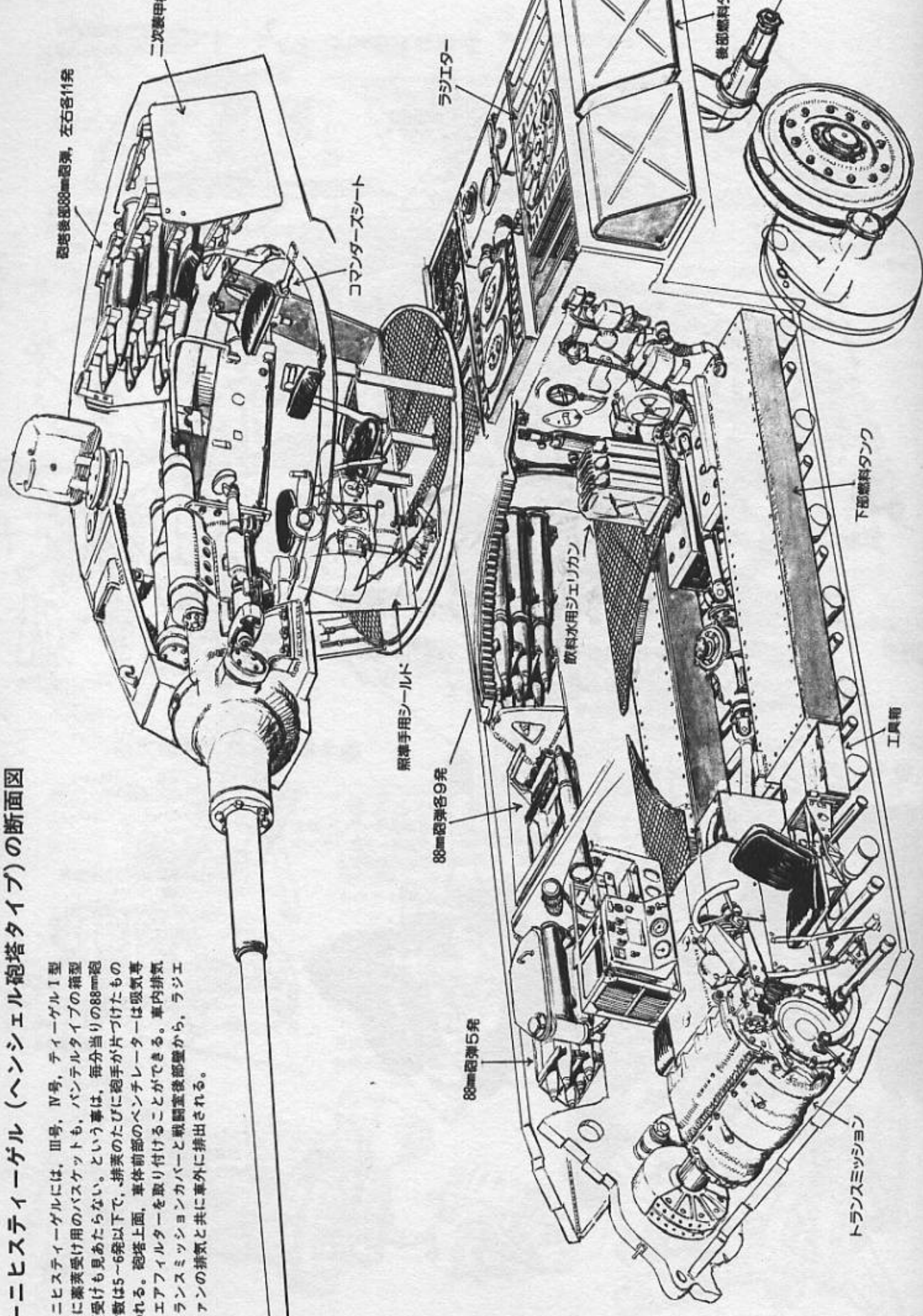


キューベルワーゲンエンジン伝達方式
による始動。シャフトの長さ2.7m。ド
ライブシャフトの最大角度は30度



ニヒスティーゲル (ヘンシエル砲塔タイプ) の断面図

ニヒスティーゲルには、Ⅲ号、Ⅳ号、ティーゲルⅠ型に薬莖受け用のバスケットも、バンテルタイプの箱型受けも見あたらぬ。という事は、毎分当りの88mm砲数は5-6発以下で、排莖のたびに砲手が片づけたもの数に達しない。砲塔上面、車体前部のベンチレーターは吸気専用。エアフィルターを取り付けることができる。車内排気ランスミッショナカバと戦闘室後部壁から、ラジエーターの排気と共に車外に排出される。





戦車兵ユニフォーム。当主人公は主に後期型フィールドグレイ戦車服で、ブラックユニフォームはあまり着用しない。ブラックユニフォームは、襟章の兵科色の他に、襟に兵科の廃止された後期型に分けられるが、カモフラージュ効果を考慮して、フィールドグレイの戦車服も採用されていた。右は戦車兵襟章。黒地に銀のトートンコープフ。フチ取りは兵科色のピンク。



肉弾戦車撃破記念。戦車猟兵大隊配属当時に5台を撃破し、金章を授章した。



クリミア橋章。クリミアの一次攻撃、二次攻撃に参加した将兵に授与された。

最後期型戦車兵ユニフォーム。上衣は43年秋より支給され始めたM44ユニフォームで、陸、海、空共通の省略型で、英軍戦車服に似ている。将校用はM35のような胸ポケットが付いている。ズボンは43年より支給された装甲車乗務員用で、ヒザの大きなポケットが特徴。色はフィールドグレイ44と呼ばれる茶灰色。



フタ付きサイドポケット

懐中時計用ポケット

ズボン吊り用ボタンホール



戦車兵大尉の肩章。シルバーグレイの肩章に2つ星、フチ取りは兵科色のピンク。



一級鉄十字章。二級は略授（リボン）をボタンホールにつける。



戦傷章。5回以上の負傷のため金バッヂ。



戦車突撃記念。75回以上の突撃戦を経験。



歩兵突撃記念。主人公が戦車猟兵大隊へ転出した時に授章した。



41/42年東部戦線従軍章。略授をボタンホールに飾った。



1934年支給の戦車用ベレー帽（シュツツミツツ）。内側がフェルト製だったが、ヘッドホーンがうまく合わず、1941年1月に中止となる。



38年型略帽。38年以降、黒ベレーと併用して支給された。兵科色のピンクが付いている。



42年型略帽。防寒対策の一環として製造された。



黒ベレーの廃止後、38年型略帽の戦車兵用黒色が支給された。将校用は銀すじが入る。



兵、下士官用38年型略帽



43年型略帽



1944年型。DAK（ドイツアフリカ軍団）規格帽と同型の戦車兵用略帽。

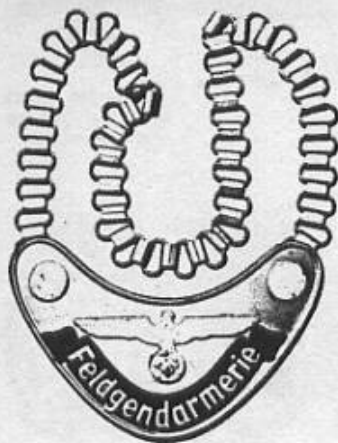


1942年以降、兵科色廃止の38年型略帽が支給された。



Feldgendarmerie

◀野戦憲兵アームバンド。左腕着用。

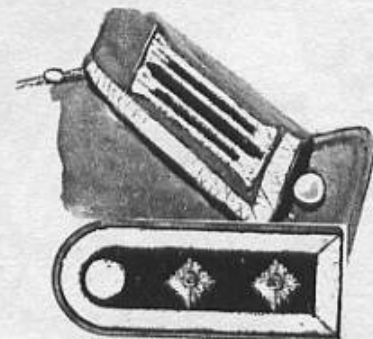


◀野戦憲兵胸章（リングリラゲン）。シルバーメタルフィニッシュで左右の円、鷲、黒格の中のフィールドゲンドルメリアの文字は金色（夜光塗料付き）。大きさは幅16.5cm。兵士達はこの胸章を付けているため、野戦憲兵を番犬と呼んでいた。

◀野戦憲兵胸章。フィールドグレイ地に柏葉章と鷲が銀色は将校。オレンジは兵、下士官。カギ十字は黒、左腕着用。



◀野戦憲兵襟章。銀色の襟章には2本の赤線が入り、下士官を示す銀モール（43年以降はグレイ）が付いている。下は野戦憲兵上級曹長肩章。銀モールに2つ星、兵科色のフチ取りはオレンジ。



野戦憲兵は軍事組織の警察として、陸、海、空及びSS内部にも設立された。その管理責任は広く、陸軍の作戦遂行の他、野戦部隊の交通整理、飛行場整備、対テロリスト、戦線後方のパトロール、野戦部隊の軍規の保全等であり、意欲的な者を検挙する事が出来る。また2名の憲兵少佐で即決軍法会議を設立し処理出来た。全階級の野戦憲兵は通常の歩兵戦闘訓練を受けており、陸軍のユニフォームを着用した。

野戦憲兵大隊は3個中隊で編成され、憲兵1個中隊は将校4名、下士官90名、兵士22名、憲兵補助員22名で編成され、トラック7台、サイドカー28台で構成され、野戦憲兵大隊は軍司令部に所属し、憲兵中隊は3個小隊で編成され、各小隊は軍団所属の師団司令部へ配属された。

秘密野戦憲兵（GFP）は野戦憲兵より選抜された将校が任命名され、主な仕事は軍事機密の維持、軍参謀部のIC/AO（情報将校）など。

◀秘密野戦憲兵将校襟章。ダークグリーン地に銀の襟章。2本の線は水色。フチ取りも水色。下は秘密野戦憲兵中尉の肩章。秘密野戦憲兵の頭文字と一つ星は金色。フチ取りの兵科色は水色。

◀オートバイ兵用ゴムコート。サイドカー、自動車部隊の運転兵及び将校に支給された。初期型はダークグリーン地の布の襟だが、後期型はフィールドグレイの布襟となった。



◀将軍（軍司令官）の襟章。赤の台布に金色のかざり。

◀大将の肩章。赤の台布に金、銀の織り、銀星2つ。

◀フー・メルリット勳章（第一次大戦時の勳で、当時の騎士十字章に相当する）



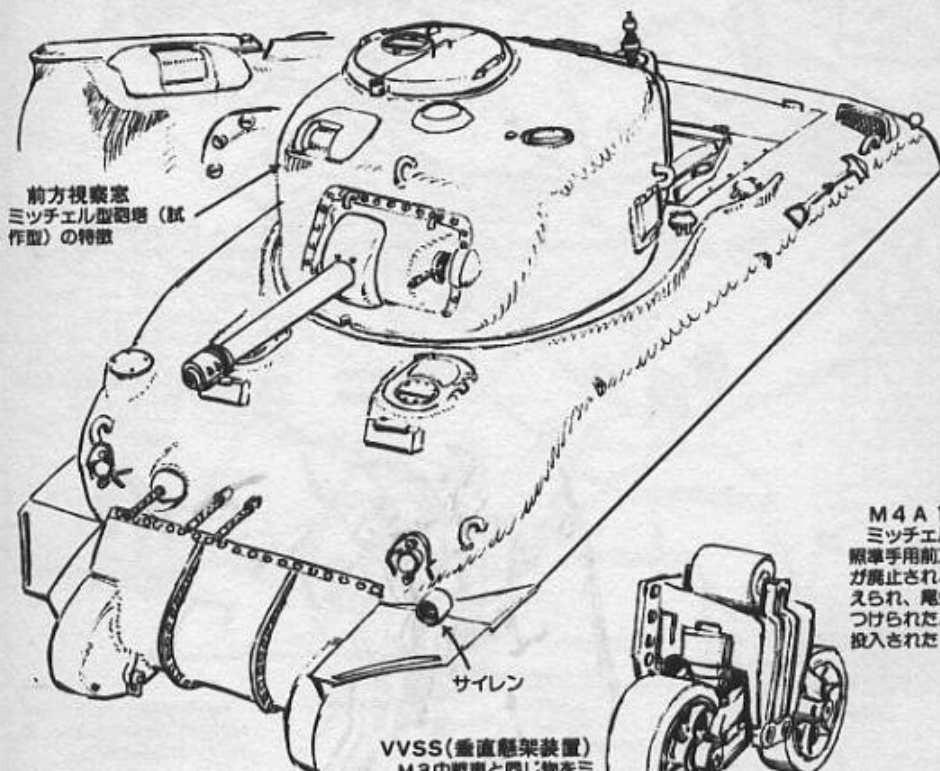
◀第3ボタンホールに付けられた第一次大戦の2級鉄十字章の縫製と、その上には第二次大戦の1級鉄十字章の略章が付けられている。右が第一次大戦の2級鉄十字章。

◀上着の前合わせには将軍を示す赤線が入っている。上着だけにも違いはある。袖の折り返しには地図などをさみ込んでいる。

◀将軍階級の制帽は、軍帽のフチ取りは金色、鷲章、国章は銀色だが、元師はすべて金色となった。



イラストで見るM4シャーマンのバリエーション SHERMAN TANKS



前方視察窓
ミッチェル型砲塔（試
作型）の特徴

M4A1 ミッチェル型
1942年2月、M4より選
れて制式化したが量産は先
に行なわれ、レンド・リース
法により英国へ送られて
宣伝に使用された。特徴は
ミッチェル型砲塔でカウン
ターウェイト付きの31口径
75mm砲M2を装備し、車体
前方の固定式30口径ブロー
ニング機銃2挺、操縦席前
方の直視型バイザープロッ
クがあり、後部の尾灯には
ライトガードが付いていな
い

M4A1 初期型
ミッチェル型に比べ戦闘仕様になり、
照準用手用前方視察窓、前方固定銃2挺
が廃止され、主砲も40口径75mm砲に
えられ、尾灯にもライトガードが取り
つけられた。北アフリカで初めて実戦
投入された

サイレン
VVSS(垂直懸架装置)
M3中戦車と同じ物をミ
ッチェル型は使用している

主砲運動砲架M32中期型
前期ももっとも初期の物は
主砲のサイドガードアー
マが付いていない

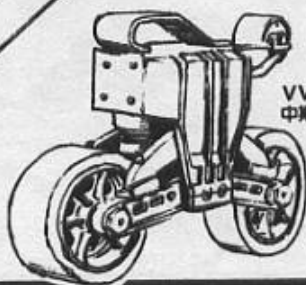
M4A1 中期型前期
中期型前期でもっとも初期のものは
左に示した通りである。中期型前期は
主砲同軸機銃に小防盾が付いて、車体
前方の直視型バイザープロックが防盾
上の理由により廃止されている。サイ
レンは車体中央左よりに簡単なガード
付きで取り付けられている

サイドスカート
はオプションで装
備

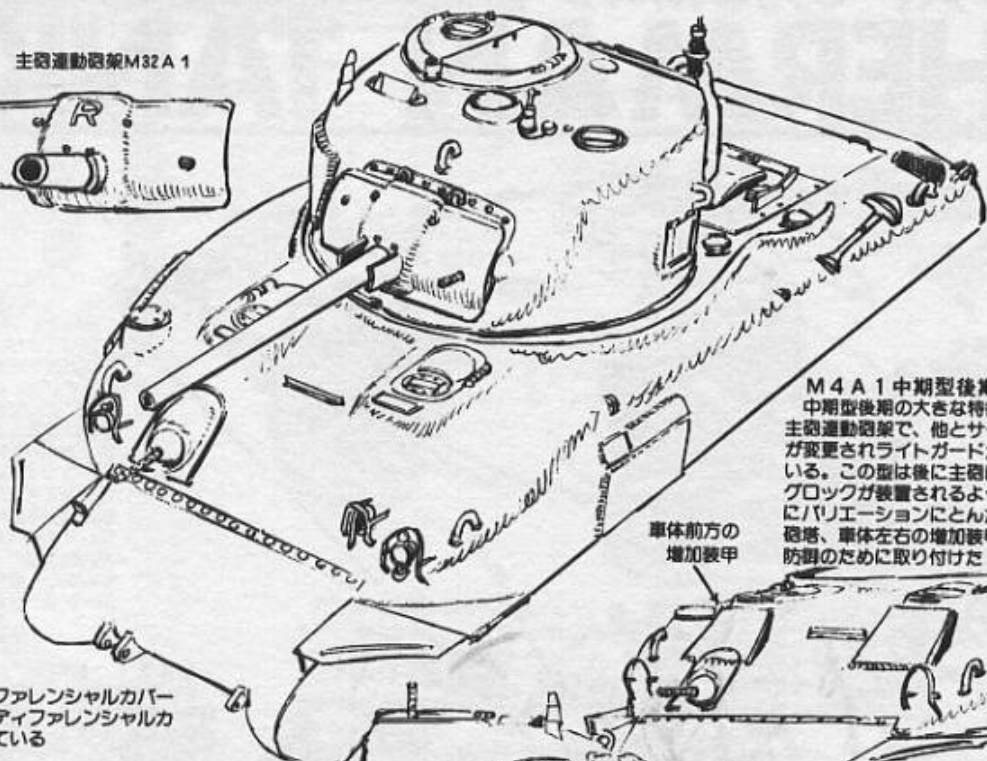
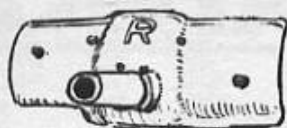


M4A1、M4の初
期、中期型共通の直視
照準器

VVSS(垂直懸架装置)
中期型以降この型に換わる



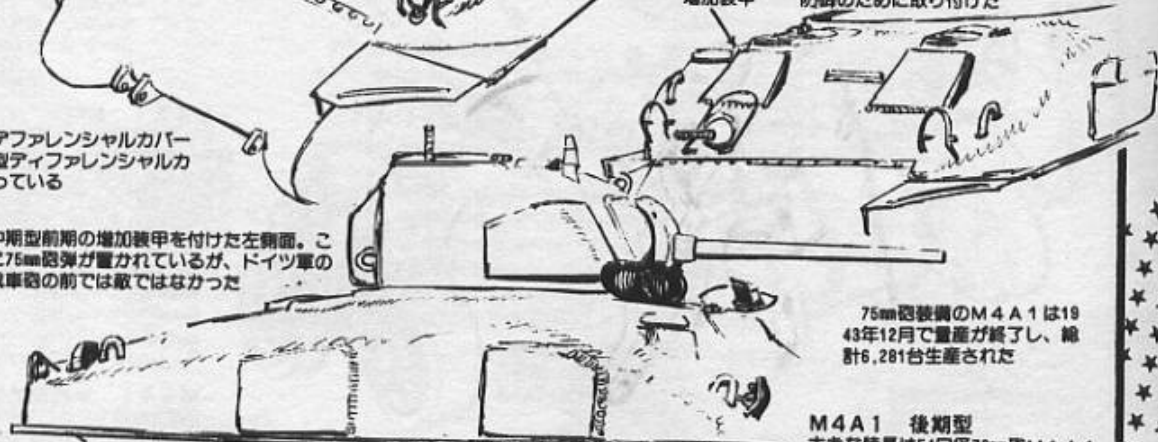
主砲運動器M32A1



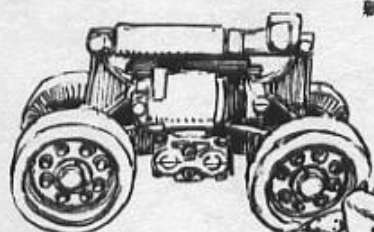
3分割アッパレンシャルカバーから一体型ディファレンシャルカバーに換っている

中期型前期の増加装甲を付けた左側面。ここに75mm砲弾が置かれているが、ドイツ軍の対戦車砲の前では敵ではなかった

M4A1 中期型後期
中期型後期の大きな特徴はM32A1主砲運動器で、他とサイレンの位置が変更されライトガードが新設されている。この型は後に主砲にトラベリングブロックが設置されるようになり非常にバリエーションにとんだ型になるが砲塔、車体左右の増加装甲は各型共、防弾のために取り付け



75mm砲装備のM4A1は1943年12月で生産が終了し、総計6,281台生産された

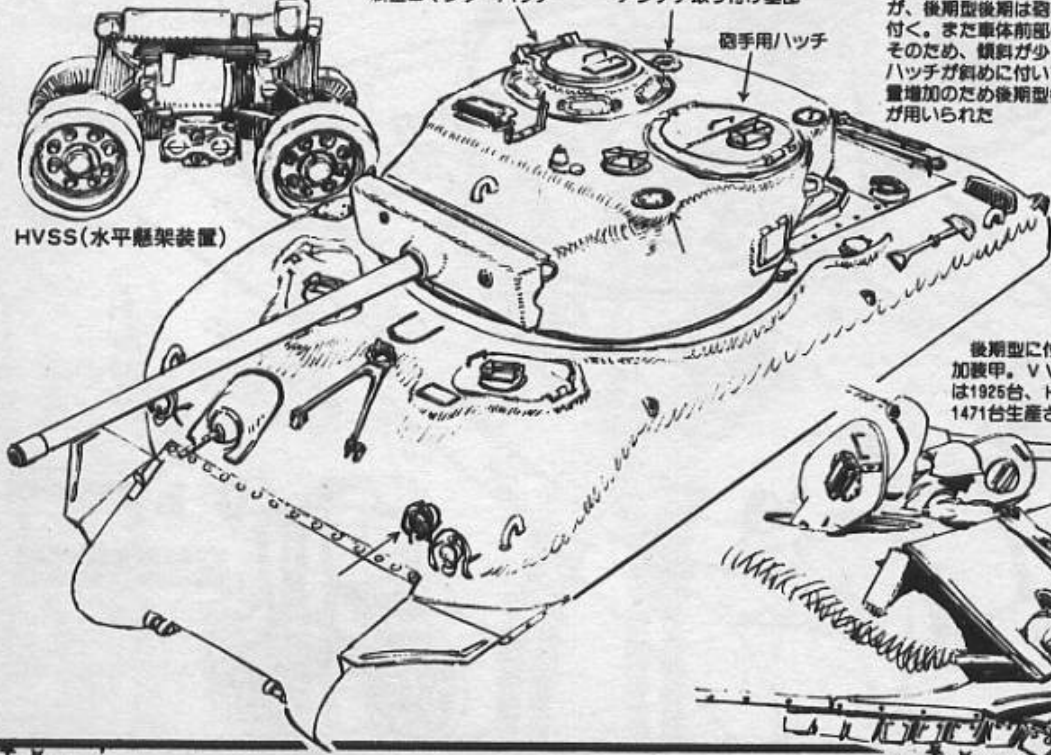


HVSS(水平懸架装置)

新型コマンダーハッチ

アンテナ取り付け基部

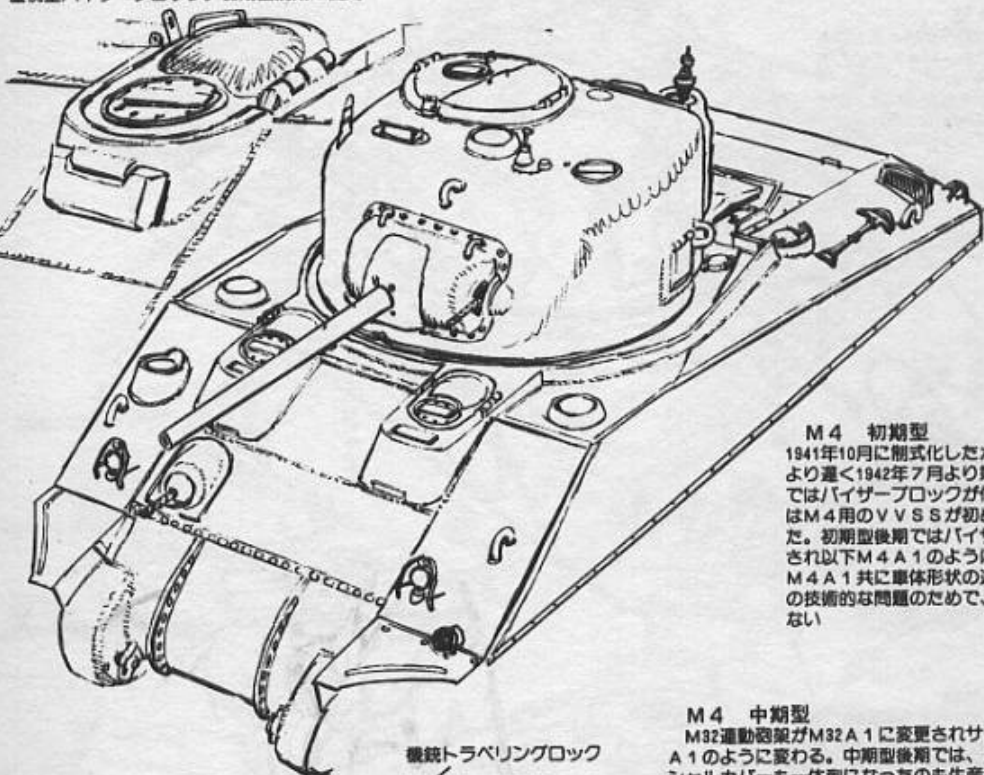
砲手用ハッチ



M4A1 後期型
大きな特長は54口径76mm砲M1A1を装備し砲塔も変更され、後期型前期は砲手ハッチが左イラストの様になるが、後期型後期は砲手ハッチが斜めに付く。また車体前部の装甲が厚くなり、そのため、傾斜が少し急になり、乗降ハッチが斜めに付いている。転輪は重量増加のため後期型後期ではHVSSが用いられた

後期型に付けられた前部増加装甲。VVSS装備の前期は1925台、HVSSの後期は1471台生産された

直視型バイザーブロック。初期型前期に使用



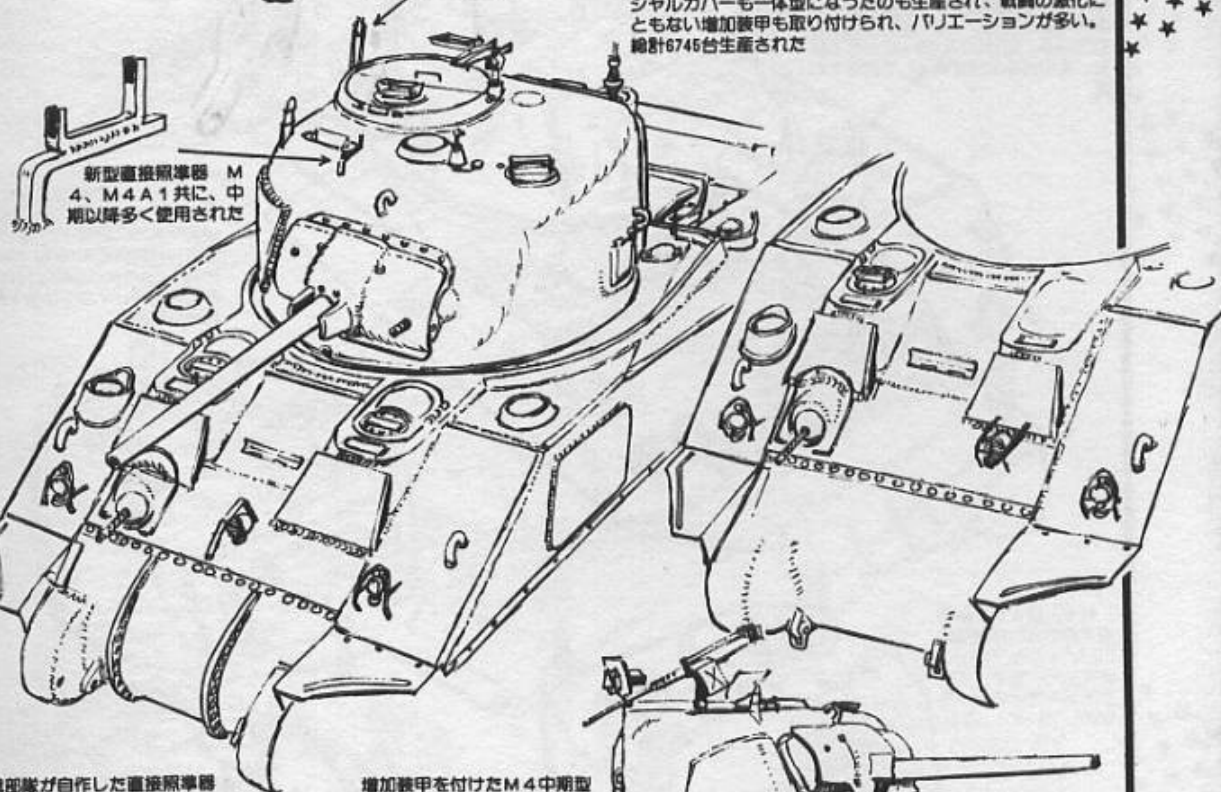
M4 初期型

1941年10月に制式化した。生産はM4A1より遅く1942年7月より始った。初期型前期ではバイザーブロックが付いていたが、転輸はM4用のVVSが初めから使用されていた。初期型後期ではバイザーブロックが廃止され以下M4A1のように発展する。M4、M4A1共に車体形状の違いは生産メーカーの技術的な問題のためで、内容装備に違いはない

M4 中期型

M32運動器がM32A1に変更されサイレンの位置もM4A1のように変わる。中期型後期では、3分割ディフレンシャルカバーも一体型になったのも生産され、戦況の激化にともない増加装甲も取り付けられ、バリエーションが多い。総計6745台生産された

機銃トラベリングブロック

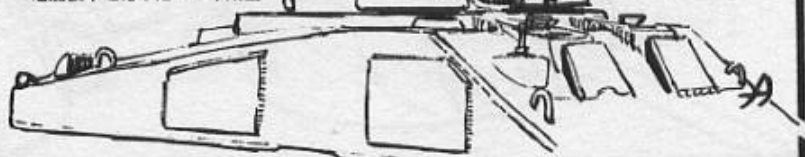


新型直接照準器 M4、M4A1共に、中期以降多く使用された

野戦部隊が自作した直接照準器

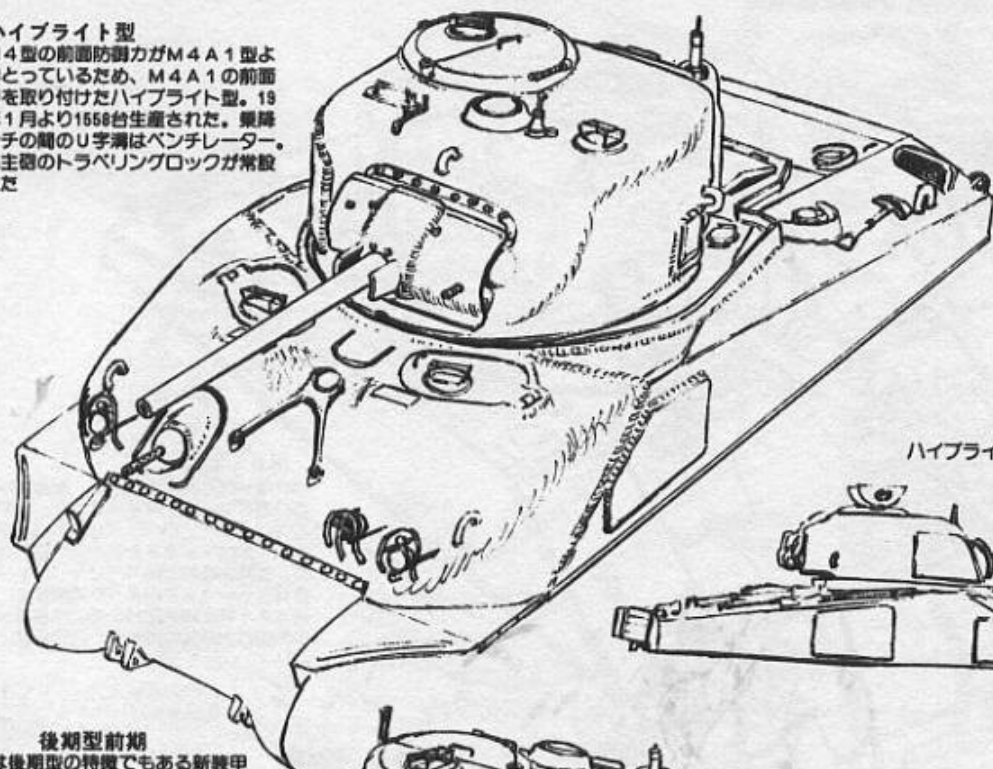


増加装甲を付けたM4中期型



ハイブライト型

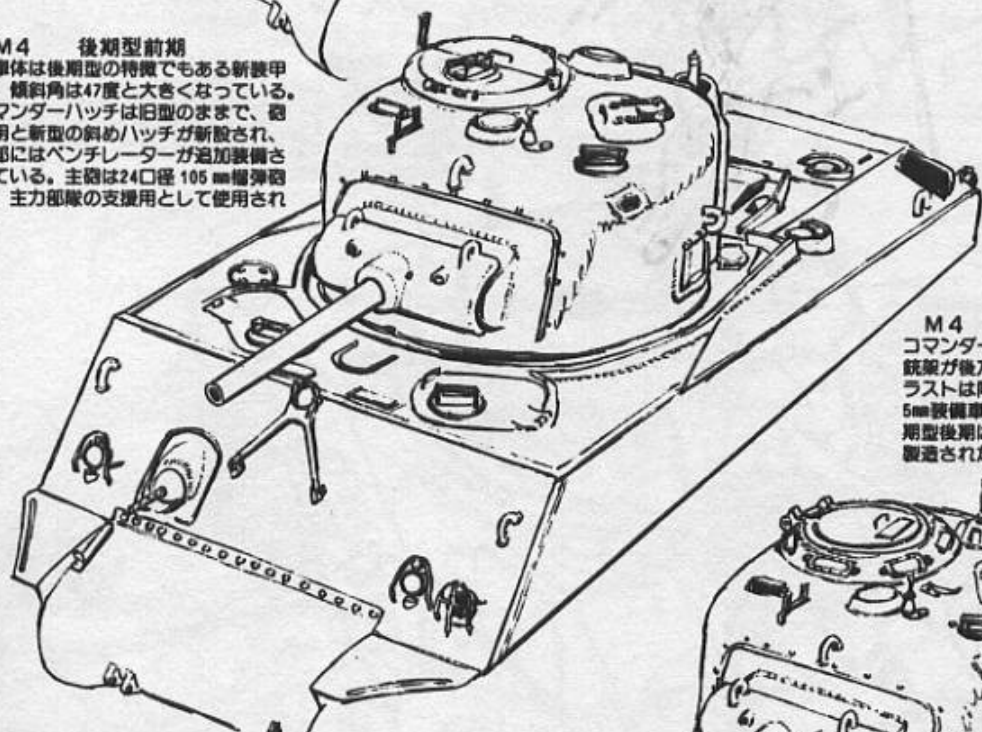
M4型の前面防弾力がM4A1型よりおとっているため、M4A1の前面装甲を取り付けたハイブライト型。1944年1月より1556台生産された。乗降ハッチの間のU字溝はベンチレーター。75mm主砲のトラベリングブロックが常設された



ハイブライト型の左側面

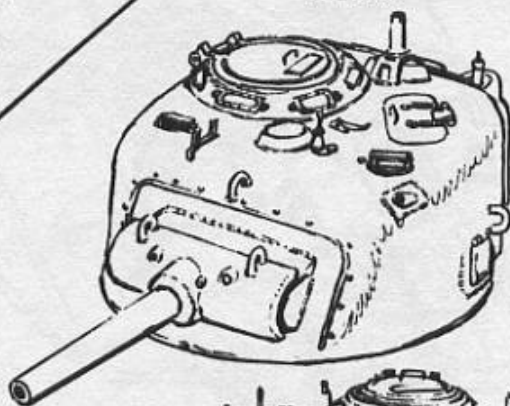
M4 後期型前期

車体は後期型の特徴でもある新装甲で、傾斜角は47度と大きくなっている。コマンダーハッチは旧型のままで、射手用と新型の斜めハッチが新設され、後部にはベンチレーターが追加装備されている。主砲は24口径 105mm榴弾砲で、主力部隊の支援用として使用された

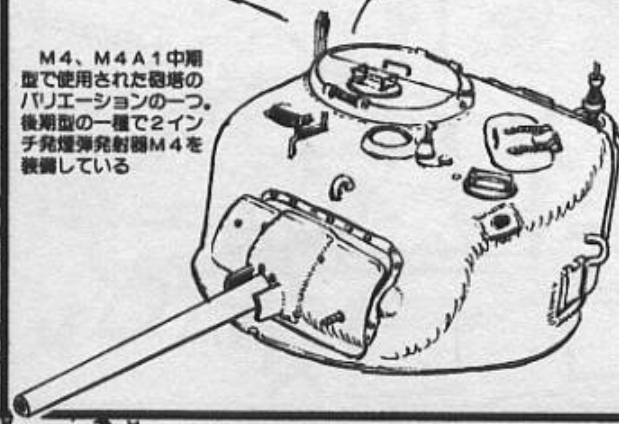


M4 後期型後期

コマンダーハッチが新型になり機銃架が後方に新設された。下のイラストは同砲塔の側面。M4型105mm装備車は800台製造された。後期型後期はHVSS仕様で841台製造された

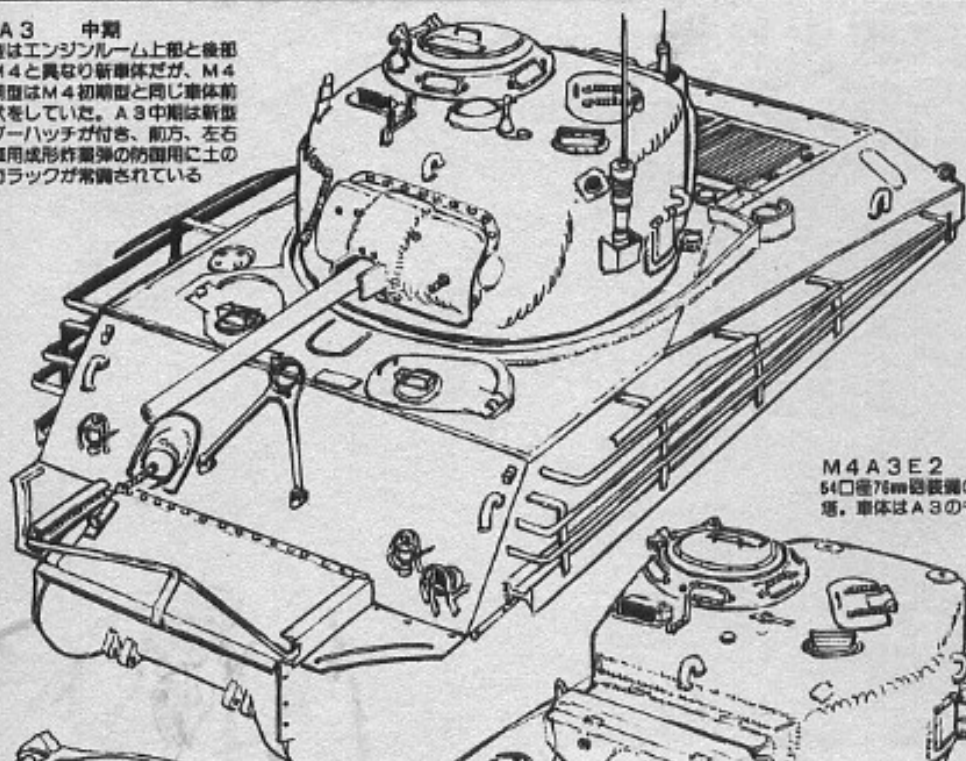


M4、M4A1中期型で使用された砲塔のバリエーションの一つ。後期型の一つで2インチ発煙弾発射器M4を装備している



M4A3 中期

A3型はエンジンルーム上部と後部が他のM4と異なり新車体だが、M4A3初期型はM4初期型と同じ車体前方の形状をしていた。A3中期は新型コマンダーハッチが付き、前方、左右に対戦車用成形炸薬弾の防御用に土のうを横のラックが常備されている



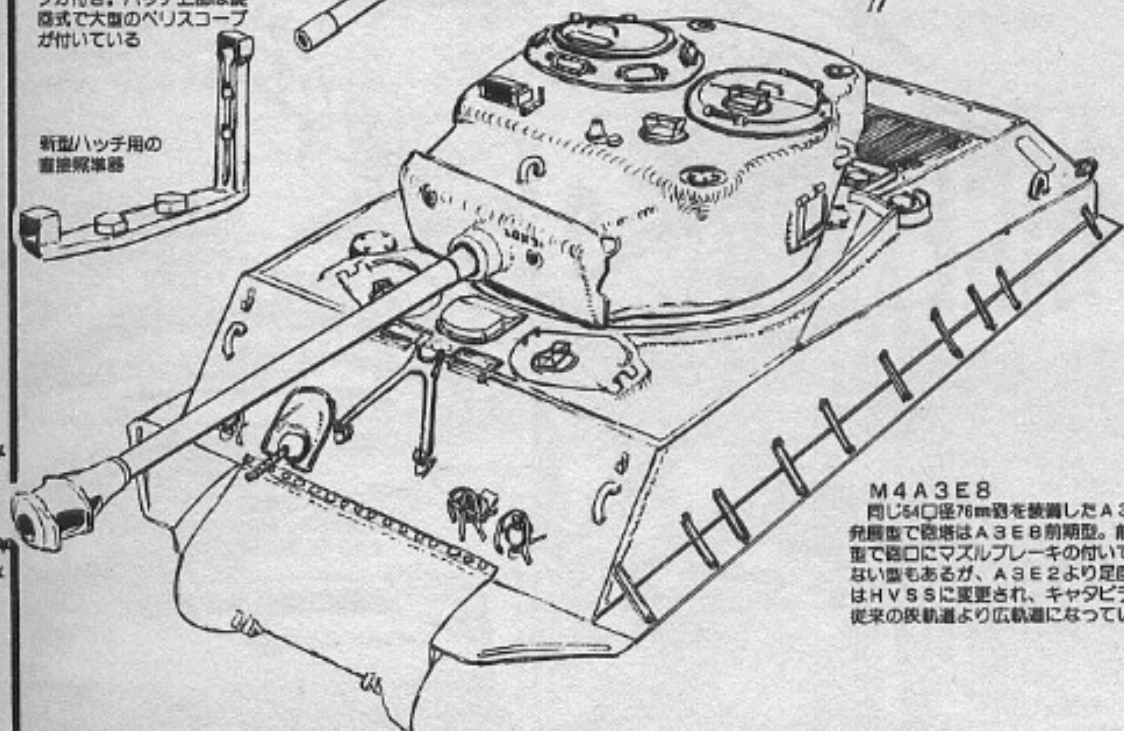
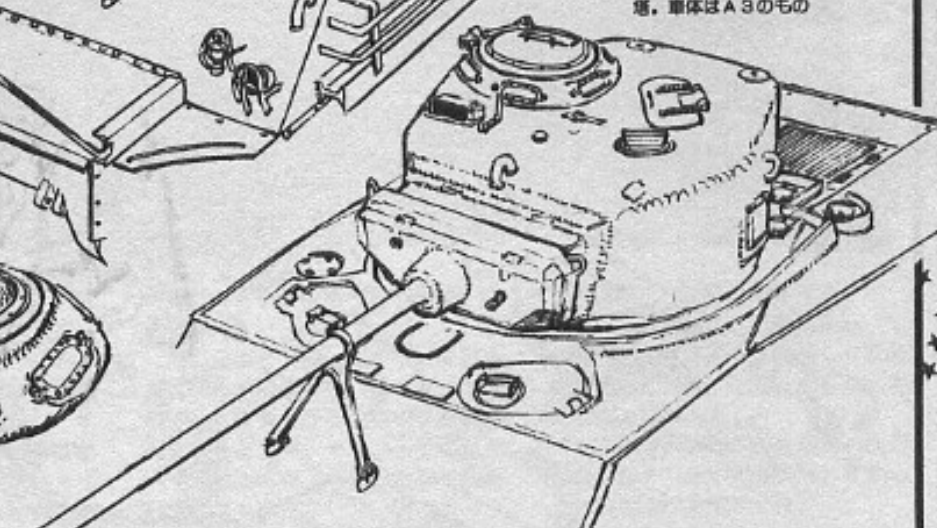
M4A3E2
64口径76mm砲装填の砲塔。車体はA3のもの



新型コマンダーハッチ。周囲には6個のペリスコープが付き、ハッチ上部は旋回式で大型のペリスコープが付いている

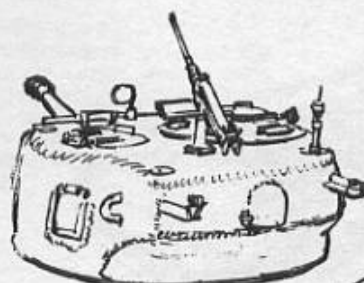


新型ハッチ用の
直接照準器

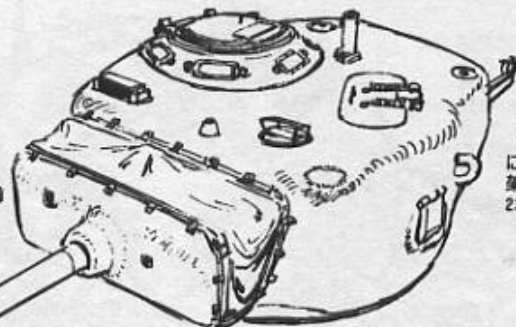


M4A3E8

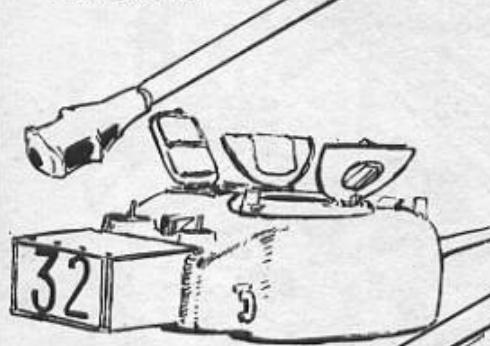
同じ64口径76mm砲を装填したA3の発展型で砲塔はA3E8前期型。前期型で砲口にマズルブレーキが付いていない型もあるが、A3E2より足回りはHVSに更新され、キャタピラも従来の狭軌道より広軌道になっている



T23ターレットには
機銃用トラベリングロ
ックが付いている

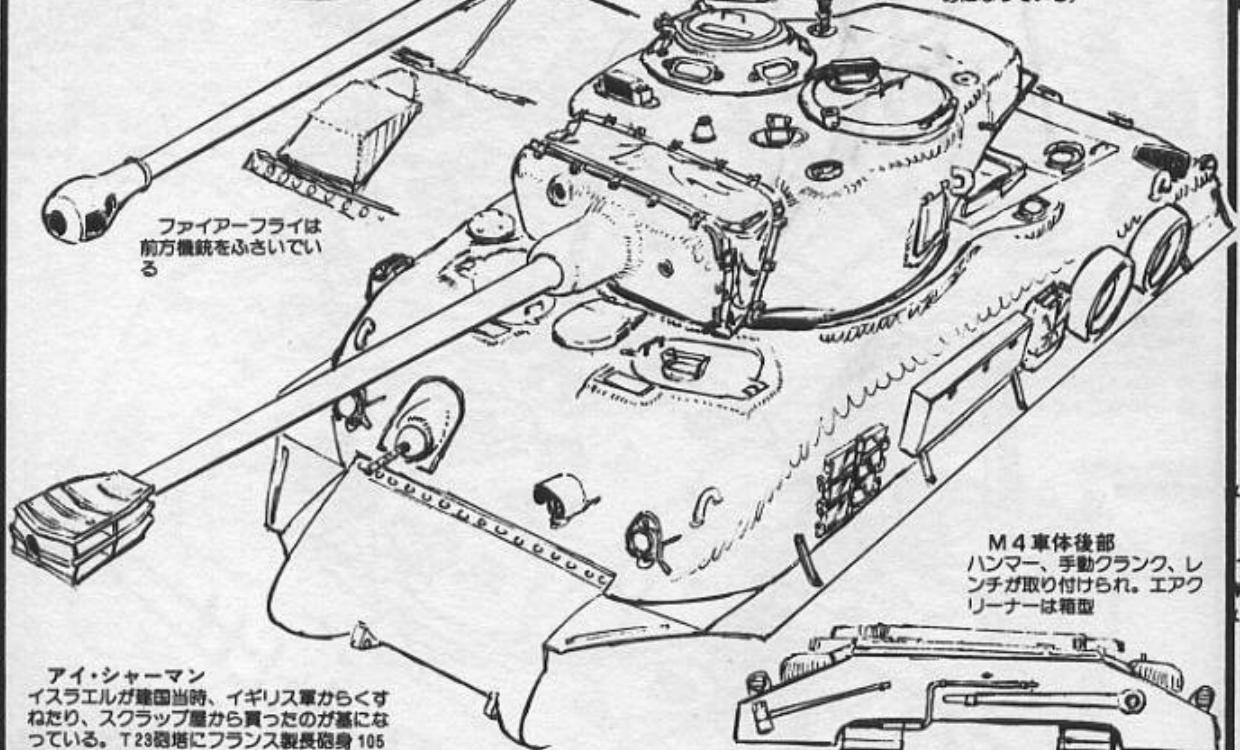


M4A3E8 後期型砲塔
砲手用ハッチが新型となった他
に発煙弾発射口がふさがれ、機銃
架が新設されている。左はこのT
23-76mm砲塔の後部



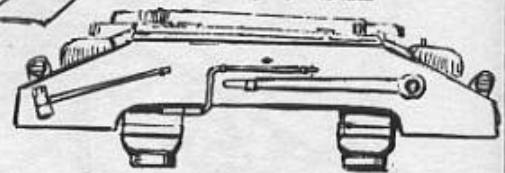
ファイアーフライは
前方機銃をふさいでい
る

シャーマン、ファイアーフライ
ドイツ軍のタイガー、パンサー
に対抗するため、長砲身17ポ
ンド砲を横載。砲塔のバランスを取
るため、後部にバラストを取り付
けてある。車体はM4A4を使用
(エンジン後部がA3のように斜
めになっている)

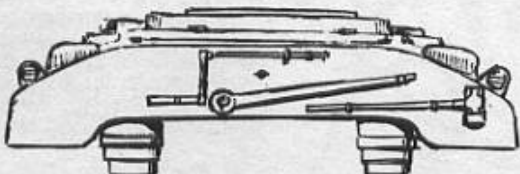


M4車体後部
ハンマー、手動クランク、レ
ンチが取り付けられ。エアク
リーナーは箱型

アイ・シャーマン
イスラエルが建国当時、イギリス軍からくす
ねたり、スクラップ屋から買ったのが基にな
っている。T23砲塔にフランス製長砲身 105
mm砲を載せ、砲塔後部にバラストを取り付け
ている



M4A3後部
防割のため、60度の傾斜角を持ち、
A4も同じ型となっている



M4A1後部
M4に比べ工具の配置が違う。エアクリーナーは円筒型

